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Through these companies we can provide you with short, medium or long term finance and a host of financial services to assist your Australian/Pacific enterprises.

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HOME NEWS

Cigarette list for carbon monoxide level sought

By Our Science Editor
A list of the levels of carbon monoxide produced by different brands of cigarette, similar to the Government's tar and nicotine table, is recommended in the *British Medical Journal* today.

The proposal is in a report by Dr M. A. H. Russell, addition research unit, Institute of Psychiatry, Maudsley Hospital, London, and Dr P. V. Cole, of St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, and others, after research into cigarette carbon monoxide levels and their relation to nicotine yields and types of filter.

Carbon monoxide is a poisonous component of most smoke which combines with the blood more readily than oxygen. The higher the carbon monoxide level, the more harmful the effects.

The research groups examined 11 popular puff-by-puff brands of cigarettes. The results showed an increase in carbon monoxide concentration as a cigarette is smoked. Brands with nicotine levels of more than one milligram showed no apparent connection between the nicotine level and the carbon monoxide level, and the filters of cigarettes in that category did not appear to reduce the amount of carbon monoxide produced.

In special brands of low-nicotine cigarettes with vented filters, the filters were highly effective in reducing carbon monoxide yields.

Dr D. J. Greenwood, head of the chemistry department at the National Research Station, Wellesbourne, Warwick, says in the organization's annual report that large quantities of fertilizer are simply wasted, at considerable cost both to the grower and the nation.

Growers seldom took account of the differing abilities of soils in supplying nutrients or of plants in extracting them. The department had spent seven years in compiling relevant information from 16,000 growing plots, and that had been stored in a computer.

Professor Denley Wright, director of the station, says that only half the nitrogen, phosphorus and potash sown were harvested. The remainder is left uncut because of disease or weeds, because the market is glutted, or because the crop was so poorly established as to make harvesting uneconomic.

Growers often sowed as much as a fifth more land than they needed for the crop to ensure continuity through a succession of relatively unpredictable sowings.

A survey by the Meat Research Institute had shown that very few British plants were capable of meeting EEC rules about temperatures for freezing "mountains" of meat sold into intervention. Professor John Norris, director of the institute, writes in his annual report. He added that transport of meat was often a weak link in the chain from farmer to shopper.

Professor Norris also says that researchers are worried about the sluggish acceptance of new techniques by the meat industry. Eating quality is rarely given adequate consideration at the start of the distribution chain, and the industry was so organized that news of consumer preferences was unlikely to filter back to producers.

Prices of some beef and lamb are falling, but home-grown vegetables are so delicious now that it is easy to do without meat and fish for some meals. For flavour and economy nothing can surpass a dish of fresh young carrots, at 18p a bunch, peas from the pod at about 15p a pound, broad beans at about 10p, and new potatoes at 14p.

Broad beans have the shortest season, and unlike peas and potatoes have not become more expensive in the past week. They should be bought from green-producers in large quantities.

Processors of vegetables say that home-grown produce has become accustomed to convenience foods that the arrival on the market of fresh peas and broad beans has no effect on sales of tinned and frozen varieties.

Seven of every 100 peas sold throughout the year are fresh, 45 are frozen and 34 tinned. Birds Eye, the largest processor of frozen food, points out that because the qualities of peas are affected by freezing almost immediately after harvesting, packaged peas are often fresher than those sold in the pod two or three days after picking.

It says that a pound of pods yields 5½ oz of peas and that the quality of those sold fresh is unreliable. That is undesirable, indeed, the only advantage fresh peas can claim over processed ones is that they are much more satisfying to eat.

The Department of Prices and Consumer Protection said yesterday that the prices of beef and home-produced lamb would be cut this weekend by as much as 4p a pound. But the cuts are likely to be concentrated on roasting and stewing cuts rather than on steak and chops.

Raspberries are reaching shops in southern England at about 80p a pound, but the Scottish crop is yet to come. Strawberries start at 18p a pound. Their price varies widely at the height of this rather difficult season. The smaller the punnet the higher the price for a pound of fruit is likely to be. In some areas it may be hard to find any for less than 35p a pound.

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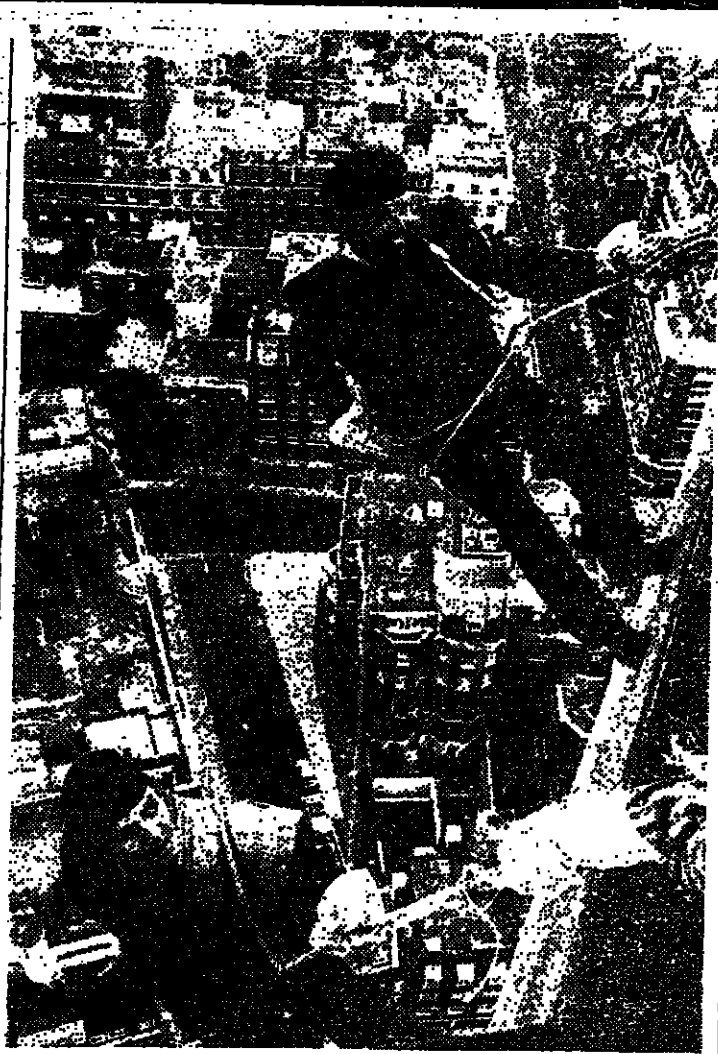
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Royal Marine Commandos descending 328ft from the roof of the London Hilton hotel yesterday as a warm-up for the Royal Tournament. It begins on Wednesday at Earls Court.

Dietician sees a benefit in inflation

From Our Correspondent York

Inflation may improve the health of people in Bbec because housewives are forced to shop around for cheaper and more nutritious foods, the conference of the National Association for Dietetics and Child Welfare, York, was told yesterday.

Mrs Freda Patton, a university dietician with the ten and Islington area health authority in London, said before the economists people were interested in the foods they liked were not concerned with vitamins, minerals and calories.

She said: "It is possible that the economic crisis may with it a better eating pattern for a healthier Britain. Traditional trends associate prosperity with not necessarily uniformly beneficial."

Mrs Patton's advice over food bills and a healthy diet was to shop around for cheaper and more nutritious foods in season when they are at their best, and to use new foodstuffs as textured vegetable oil instead of so many convenience foods, and do more cooking and baking.

She said the people at risk from inflation were pensioners and families without children or more. They to be encouraged to break old eating habits and be more flexible in their choice of food.

Archaeologists rush to discredit road route

By Michael Horsnell

An archaeological dig against time and the threat of the bulldozer near Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire, is producing evidence of a Roman fort which the unexcavated city of Magiovinium may be much larger than had been thought.

A small group of archaeologists is unearthing what may prove to be a Claudian fort that will help to extend our knowledge of the Roman invasion period; but it lies directly in line with a major road which the Department of the Environment plans to start building next spring.

The discoveries, which include a treasure of Roman pottery and coins have been made in the past three months during a concerted effort to discredit the recommendations made to the department in 1973, after a public inquiry into a proposed 10-mile diversion of the A5, to serve the new city of Milton Keynes.

The group has the moral

support of Dame Kathleen Kenyon, a fellow of the British Academy. She has visited the site twice.

The chances of their persuading the department to enlarge the area of Magiovinium scheduled as an ancient monument and to change their road plan are believed to be slight but not hopeless.

In his report the 1973 inquiry inspector, Mr F. H. Clinch, said that the scheduled area of Magiovinium represents one of the most important archaeological sites in Britain. It has remained undisturbed since the collapse of Romano-British civilization. He added, however, archaeological remains outside the scheduled area was insufficient to justify relocation of the road.

Dame Kathleen Kenyon told me: "The proposed road would pass through the site of Magiovinium, which has never been investigated. It is a virgin Roman site and very few such sites exist."

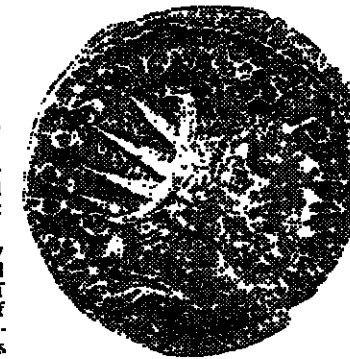
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Mr Farrant, who will be advising the diggers this weekend, said that the trial excavation should be developed into a full research operation unhampered by financial difficulties and the pressure of time.

He said the boundary of the scheduled area, which was fixed by aerial photography, was inadequate.

In a statement to a public inquiry last month into the side roads which would serve the newly aligned A5, he said: "The importance of a Claudian settlement to archaeologists is that it would help to substantiate theories of the initial advance of a Roman army following the invasion of AD 43."

The department has already said that where the route passes through known areas of archaeological investigation total archaeological investigation will take place before work starts and will carry on during the period of construction.



A coin of the third-century emperor Postumus, unearthed at Magiovinium.

Mr Nicholas Farrant, editor of *London Archaeologist*, who has directed a number of excavations, added: "The work now being undertaken on the line of the road indicates that the site of Magiovinium is very much larger than had been previously proved. If the possibility of an early fort is confirmed,

our knowledge of the invasion period could be much extended."

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PCs jailed for motoring offences plot

A policeman who won 26

commendations in 21 years was jailed at Birmingham Crown Court yesterday for conspiring to stop motoring prosecutions.

Police Constable William Glasbury, who had been called one of the most highly commended officers in the Birmingham force, and Police Constable Leslie Jennings, were involved in a scheme to get money from people stopped for traffic offences, the court was told. In return, process booklets containing drivers' details were "lost".

Mr Douglas Draycott, QC, for the prosecution, said the process booklet system was wide open to misuse.

PC Glasbury, aged 43, of Beches Road, Great Barr, Birmingham, was jailed for 15 months after being convicted of conspiring to pervert the course of justice, and of corruptly offering another policeman £5 to stop him submitting a process booklet.

PC Jennings, aged 47, of Elmswood Road, Surestly, Sutton Coldfield, was jailed for nine months for conspiring to

pervert the course of justice. Donald Parsons, aged 47, garage owner, of Aubrey Road, Quinton, Birmingham, received 18 months' jail, and Gary Clarke, aged 30, panel beater, of Church Hill Road, Bordesley Green, Birmingham, was given a nine-month suspended sentence.

Mr Parsons was found guilty on six of seven charges and Mr Clarke on three of four charges, all involving conspiring to pervert the course of justice. All four pleaded not guilty.

Muslim school battle is over

Mr Abdullahi Patel, secretary of the Bradford-based Muslim Parents' Association, yesterday withdrew his appeal to the Divisional Court against conviction for failing to send his daughter, Kulsumbanu, to school. She was 16 yesterday.

Mr Patel, who had insisted that under Muslim teaching, his daughter should attend a single-sex school, claimed that he had won his battle with the local authority.

Big on the inside, not on the outside.

As you take your seat in the Corolla 30 you immediately feel the efficient use that has been made of space.

Your shoulders aren't rubbing up against the passenger next to you. Your legs can go to comfortable lengths. The seats offer wide adjustment and give proper support to your back and thighs.

The Corolla 30 gives you substantially more shoulder room inside than is offered by most other cars of similar external width. 5 passengers have more than a comfortable chance of arriving after a long journey without looking like crumpled paper bags.

The Corolla 30 also has 4 adult-sized doors—each with its own courtesy light switch, and a boot that's large enough to take two golf bags—with their trolleys.

Everything you need is built in.

The Corolla 30 has tinted glass. Reclining front seats. A 6-speaker sound system. A push-button radio with slide controls and both Long Wave and Medium Wavebands.

There are electric washers. Two-speed wipers. A three-speed fresh-air recirculating heating system with illuminated controls. A cigar lighter, ashtray and clock. A heated rear window. Flow-through ventilation and fully fitted carpets.

Lights, wipers and washers are controlled from fingertip stalks. A trip meter is installed as standard.

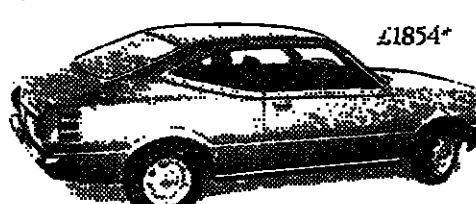
On the safety side the Corolla 30 has dual circuit servo-assisted brakes with front discs. There are hazard-warning lights. Reversing lights. Dunlop SP Sport radial tyres. A lockable petrol cap. And a comprehensive tool kit.

The Corolla 30 saloon is also available with automatic transmission.

Economy without sacrificing performance.

The engine fitted to the Corolla 30 saloon and estate is specifically designed for 2-star petrol—it is not de-tuned so that it can operate on lower fuel grades. It produces 73 bhp (SAE) from 1166cc, gives a top speed of 90 mph, and up to 43 mpg.

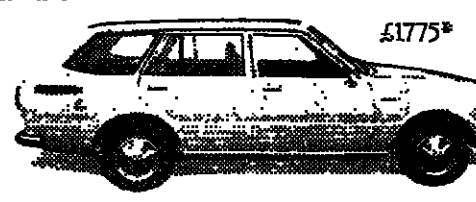
The Corolla 30 engine is also fitted with a twin-choke carburettor. During normal motoring one choke operates for maximum fuel economy. When you want to accelerate hard, the second choke automatically opens for maximum performance.



The Corolla 30 Coupe.

Fitted with a high performance version of the Corolla 30 engine, with a 10.0:1 compression ratio and two twin-choke carburettors, the Corolla 30 Coupe uses 4-star petrol to keep 83 bhp under its bonnet and a top speed of 97 mph up its sleeve.

Its sportiness is enhanced by the pillarless styling, standard 5-speed gearbox and a list of refinements that puts it way ahead of anything else in its class.



The Corolla 30 Estate.

The Corolla 30 estate retains the clean compact lines of the Corolla 30 saloon—yet hidden in there is a loading platform as big as some 2-litre estates.

There are four passenger doors, a full-width lift-up tailgate with heated window, and two door mirrors. Otherwise equipment specification is virtually identical to that of the Corolla 30 saloon.

You're closer to a new Toyota than you think.

There's a Toyota dealer not very far from you who'll be happy to arrange a test drive.

You'll find his address in the dealer list in this paper.

TOYOTA
The only trouble you'll have is choosing.

Now you can have a car that runs more efficiently on 2-star than 4-star, gives you more passenger space for less road space, and the most advanced equipment in its class.

The New Toyota Corolla 30.



4 Door De Luxe Saloon £1655*

* Recommended retail prices include: Car Tax and VAT

Seat belts, number plates and delivery extra.

See dealer list on opposite page.

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Beef, home-grown lamb will cost less this weekend

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Food prices

Hugh Clayton

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Writer who had cannabis jailed for three years

A freelance journalist who said he brought 7,560 grams of cannabis from Pakistan to get background for a book he was writing about the drug traffic was sentenced at Middlesbrough Crown Court yesterday to three years' imprisonment.

The book was to be a thriller with the climax at Heathrow airport, said Segun Kayode Abudu, aged 26, who was born in Nigeria, of Sheldon Road, Dricklewood, London. He pleaded not guilty but was convicted of evading the prohibition on importing the drug at Heathrow on January 25.

The jury read a copy of the manuscript of the book.

Study ordered on ways of choosing divers

The Government's Training Service Agency has ordered an examination of its methods of selecting divers. Earlier this week two divers were killed while working on an oil terminal in Scapa Flow.

The research project will cost £17,127 and is to be carried out by Stirling University. It will concentrate on the personality characteristics, mechanical aptitude and diving skills of the men.

The agency said the project would be of practical assistance in developing selection procedures and training standards at the Underwater Training Centre.

required two-thirds majority of 178 votes.

At present the president (Mr Joseph Gormley), the general secretary (Mr Lawrence Daly) and all full-time officials are elected until they retire or are forced to give up through ill health.

The Yorkshire proposal was that officials should give up their posts after five years but should be eligible to seek reelection by a ballot of members.

NUM reelection move fails

A move by the militant Yorkshire area of the National Union of Mineworkers to make all full-time union officials stand for selection failed at a private session on the last day of the union's conference at Scarborough yesterday.

An alteration to the rules to make such a change possible was approved by 158 votes to 99. But that fell short of the

WEST EUROPE

Portuguese Socialists mobilized 'to avert dictatorship'

Lisbon, July 10.—The main non-communist parties in Portugal prepared today for a confrontation with the left-wing military rulers, accusing them of an attempt to install a communist dictatorship in Portugal.

Both the Socialists and the left-centre Popular Democratic Party mobilized their followers for mass demonstrations and rallies around the country. The Communist Party's supporters were also alerted.

The crisis was caused by two political decisions made by the military Revolutionary Council—to create a non-party mass movement intended eventually to exclude the political parties from power; and to give control of the Socialist-oriented newspaper *República* to Communist-led workers occupying the building.

This reduction of the country to a hybrid organizational blueprint serves, fundamentally, only to cover-up the installation of a dictatorship. A Socialist Party statement said. It compared the creation of the mass movement to the developments of 1917 that gave the Communists power in the Soviet Union.

"It is now easier to understand the reason why the Portuguese Communist Party distinguishes between progressive officers in the Armed Forces Movement and those who aren't," the statement said. "Are those who are progressive and have the monopoly on progressiveness only those who defend the thesis of the Communist Party?"

A party spokesman said the Socialist leader, Dr. Mario Soares, would make an important speech at a rally in Lisbon tonight. Socialist sources said there was pressure in the party for Dr. Soares, a Minister without Portfolio, to

withdraw his party from the coalition Cabinet, but that no decision had yet been reached.

The left-wing workers occupying *República* published the newspaper for the first time in 31 days after the Revolutionary Council gave them control sharply before dawn today. The first edition contained a strong attack on the Socialist Party, which it called the most reactionary force in the country.

The military's 240-strong Assembly first generated an uproar among the non-communist parties yesterday by approving the creation of a mass movement directly linked to the military, which would gradually take power at all levels of government.

The proposal envisaged the creation of peoples' tribunals, self-defence units and finally the formation of a National People's Assembly to run the country under the direction of the military.

The non-communist parties said such a development would turn the Constituent Assembly elected in April and the political parties into a puppet for the military, which would gradually take power at all levels of government.

Later today the Government ordered the nationalization of Companhia União Fabril (CUF), Portugal's largest industrial conglomerate. CUF has interests in shipbuilding, cement, tobacco, textiles and chemicals. Its vast banking interests have already been nationalized, and much of the remainder had already come under state control. But the decree was an unmistakable symbol of determination to crush private enterprise.—UPI and AP.



M. Sauvagnargues, the French Foreign Minister, and Dr. Kissinger, the American Secretary of State, framed by microphones as they emerged from their talks in these yesterday.

Energy talks progress by Dr Kissinger

From Richard Wigg

Paris, July 10

Dr. Kissinger, the American Secretary of State, said after talks this morning with the French President and Foreign Minister that "very good progress" had been made towards restarting the dialogue between the United States and Algeria—but only on terms which guarantee a minimum of success.

The French would like an 11-nation gathering, from the industrialized, the oil producing and the other Third World countries, discussing on equal terms the status of some of the world's energy resources. Last April the United States refused to discuss matters other than energy.

This new preparatory meeting should be expanded into a 27-nation full conference but with the work on the three main problems done in three commissions, the French say. The resulting recommendations would have the status of something between United Nations resolutions and regulations of the European Economic Community, they suggest.

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Energy talks progress by Dr Kissinger

From Richard Wigg

Paris, July 10

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Nine vote in favour of a European Cabinet

From Michael Hornsby

Strasbourg, July 10

The European Parliament voted here today in favour of establishing a European Government that would be independent of national governments and responsible to the Community's Parliament, whose members would be elected by direct universal suffrage not later than mid-1978.

The European Parliament, whose powers are largely nominal at present, and whose deputies are chosen by national parliaments, also approved a proposal for the extension of the responsibilities of the new European institutions to defence, as well as foreign policy and economic and monetary policy.

The proposals were contained in a motion setting out the suggested basis for the establishment of the political and economic union of Europe, to which the government of all the Nine are in principle committed. The motion was carried by 71 votes to 8, with 19 abstentions.

The newly arrived Labour delegation, which ended its pre-referendum boycott of the assembly in the vote, pleading that its members had not yet had sufficient time to study the proposals for European union.

Many of the Labour MPs, however, have expressed deep reservations about today's motion, mainly because they feel it contains commitments which would involve an unacceptable surrender of national sovereignty to a supranational body, with uncertain democratic credentials.

The Labour delegation is also unhappy about the proposed inclusion of defence policy among the Community's widened powers. Earlier this week, Mr. Michael Stewart, the Labour spokesman, said that the Labour Party would not support the motion unless it was amended to exclude defence.

The European Conservative group, led by Peter Kirk, the British Conservative MP, the Saffron Walden, voted in favour of the motion even though two important amendments proposed by Mr. Kirk were overruled.

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OVERSEAS

Rhodesian guerrillas training in Tanzania

'Dar es Salaam, July 10.—

Rhodesian guerrillas today visited camps in Tanzania where guerrillas are preparing to wage a "liberation war" if negotiations to introduce black rule in Rhodesia fail.

The leaders of the African National Council toured bases in Tanzania's Morogoro region where the guerrillas are being trained. The visitors were headed by Bishop Abel Muzorewa, president of the ANC. They had spent four days in Dar es Salaam trying to resolve the council's internal differences. The talks were held under the auspices of the Presidents of Zambia, Tanzania, Botswana and Mozambique.

In a statement after the talks the council reiterated its stand that any constitutional conference with Mr. Smith's regime must be held outside Rhodesia. Mr. Smith has insisted that such a conference take place in Rhodesia.

ANC sources said today that national leaders would visit Mozambique soon to discuss the setting up of guerrilla bases there. Mozambique, which gained independence from Portugal in June, borders eastern Rhodesia.—UPI.

Washington, July 10.—The State Department said today that the activities of mercenaries recruited by the armed forces of Rhodesia were under investigation.

Mr. Nathaniel Davis, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, told a Senate foreign relations subcommittee that any violation of law was determined.

Mr. Davis responded to an allegation by Mr. Edgar Locke, director of the Washington Office on Africa, that the State Department had known about the activities of an alleged recruiter from the state of Colorado since March without taking action.

Mr. Locke cited this as an example of what he called lax enforcement of economic sanctions imposed by the United Nations on Rhodesia in 1966, in addition to the importation of chrome ore from Rhodesia, which Congress permitted in 1971.

Urging Congress to repeal the so-called Byrd Amendment, which allows the importation of chrome and certain other materials from Rhodesia, Mr. Davis told the committee that the United States had supported the United Nations and Britain in the Smith regime to persuade the Smith regime to negotiate a peaceful settlement based on the principles of self-determination and eventual black rule in Rhodesia.

"But," he said, "while our record of sanctions enforcement has been good, there is a gap in the enforcement created by the Byrd Amendment. Early repeal not only would enable the United States to comply fully with its international obligations, but we hope, would also have an important influence on the Smith regime's negotiations regarding Rhodesia's future."—AP and UPI.

French journalist expelled from Argentina

From Jane Monahan

Buenos Aires, July 10

M. Edouard Bailby, the Latin American correspondent for the French political magazine *L'Express*, left for Paris yesterday after being under detention in Buenos Aires for five days.

He was arrested by plainclothes policemen in his hotel room last Thursday night, allegedly for criticizing the Argentine government's policy in the Falkland Islands crisis. Señor Isabel Perón, the President, and Señor José López Rega, the Social Welfare Minister.

After a heated discussion with the police, Bailby was released. He refused to transmit his article, *L'Express* said, because he feared his situation would be worsened.

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Expulsion of Cubans in Paris 'jackal' case

From Richard Wigg

Paris, July 10

The case of Carlos the Jackal today took a new turn when France announced it was expelling three members of the Cuban Embassy in Paris. They were accused of having links with Cuban intelligence agents with the Venezuelan terrorist group being sought by the police in London and Paris.

The French Ministry of the Interior said that the three Cubans, who all worked in the embassy's cultural section, went frequently to a flat in the Rue Trinitaire, in the Latin Quarter. This was the scene of the fatal shooting on June 27 by Carlos, now identified as Ilich Ramirez Sanchez, of two members of the French anti-espionage agency, the DST, and a Lebanese informer, now identified as Michael Moukharab, a member of a Palestine guerrilla organization.

The expelled Cubans are Señor Raul Sainz Rodriguez, a First Secretary in charge of the cultural section, Señor Ernesto Herrera Reyes, a Second Secretary, and Señor Pedro Zamora Lora.

Expelling the expulsions, ordered by M. Michel Poniatowski, the Minister of the Interior, to whom the DST is responsible, a spokesman declared: "The Carlos case, which until now constituted a striking demonstration of the unity of action among terrorist groups, has now been enriched with important elements showing the assistance given to international terrorism by certain states."

Today's development of the case confirms the close link between terrorist networks and the espionage service of certain states.

This is the first time in recent years that France has ordered the expulsion of foreign agents from its territory for classic cases of alleged espionage, but for alleged complicity with terrorists. The French Foreign Ministry last night summoned Señor Alejo Carpentier, Cuba's Charge

d'Affaires in the absence of the country's Ambassador, to tell him of the decision to expel the three diplomats.

The Cuban Embassy in Paris, in a short statement today, declared it had played no part in the Carlos affair. It emphasized that the Government of Dr. Fidel Castro rejected terrorist methods. This was followed by an announcement from the Interior that it would be expelling two Venezuelans—Señorita Lema Palomares Duque, and Señorita Albaladea Salazar—both accused of having incriminating contacts with Carlos and the expelled Cuban diplomats.

The Minister spokesman, in a comment on the hunt for "Carlos" in London, also remarked that Señorita Lydia Tobon, alias Maria Romero, now detained by the British police, had had contacts with a second secretary in Cuba's Legation Embassy.

Señorita Palomares Duque expressed surprise at her threatened expulsion. She told reporters that when she had been dismissed by the DST after interrogation as a witness of the Rue Trinitaire shooting, they had expressly informed her there was no objection to her staying as a student in France.

The Cuban link came as a complete surprise, for until now speculation in Paris tended to connect the international terrorists with communist powers in East Europe. *Le Monde*

OVERSEAS

Split in the ranks of Palestinian guerrillas widens over kidnapping of American colonel

From Paul Martin
Beirut, July 10.—The split inside the Palestinian guerrilla movement over the kidnapping of a black American colonel widened today as efforts to secure his release failed.

While the kidnappers extended for a further 24 hours the deadline for his threatened execution, Colonel Ernest Morgan appealed to his government not to forsake him because of his "race or the colour of my skin".

The kidnappers, who have been named by the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) as the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), have put forward a list of demands in return for Colonel Morgan's life. All efforts to secure his release so far have failed and the PLO has announced that even its attempts to use its good offices along with those of the Lebanese Government have yielded no results.

In a strongly worded statement, the PLO leadership accused the Popular Front General Command and the Popular Struggle Front of being the culprits. Both of these groups are extremists within the Palestinian movement and the general command is one of the bodies belonging to the so-called "rejection front" in the movement.

As it became clear that the leadership of Mr Yasser Arafat,

the PLO chairman, was being defied over Colonel Morgan, the threat of violence among opposing factions increased. Leaders of the PLO mainstream gave a warning that unless their orders were obeyed and Colonel Morgan was handed over they would take disciplinary action.

The colonel was kidnapped in mysterious circumstances on June 29 as he was travelling from Beirut airport to his hotel in the city. He was seized by about 20 armed men as his taxi encountered a road block on the fringes of the city. A controlled area during some of the heaviest fighting experienced in the capital.

As the men holding him announced that the execution deadline (earlier set for 1800 GMT on Wednesday), had expired, they secretly delivered another taped plea from the colonel to the French news agency office in Beirut. It was he appealed to the United States Government to treat with its customary "generosity" the kidnappers' demands, made in the name of his race, and requested the Government of his long service in the Army.

Beirut, July 10.—The kidnappers, in a message to the American Embassy, said they had decided to postpone "the 1800 GMT deadline" because Colonel Morgan "personally asked us for mercy".

The colonel had confessed to being a spy and "this will be our final stay of execution", they added.

In his taped appeal, Colonel Morgan said: "Although I miscalculated in coming to Beirut, I believe that in view of what I have done in the past, my Government should protect me in time of hardship. I should not be abandoned because of race or colour."

"I am aware of the policy of the United States not to pay ransoms, and yet I ask that the demands be met. The cost of the operation will not exceed the price of a few Phantom jets which America gives Israel almost every day."

The kidnappers have demanded that the United States should provide 280 tons of food, 600 tons of building materials and complete sets of clothing for 3,000 residents of Karantina al Maslaha, a predominantly left-wing slum area devastated by last month's street fighting in Beirut.

Meanwhile, the PLO announced tonight that a Palestinian court has sentenced two guerrillas to imprisonment for keeping arms against the security of the revolution and the masses.

On Wednesday, the PLO said a guerrilla called Ibrahim al-Lallad was executed after he had been sentenced to death by a Palestinian court.—UPI.

Hopes for peace pact over Sinai

Cairo, July 10.—Hopes today for an immediate peace agreement between Egypt and Israel after remarks by President Sadat which were interpreted as indicating that the ties had moved closer.

Hopes for an agreement were also raised by steps by United States officials to Dr Kissinger, the Secretary of State, that the Egyptian and Israeli positions exchanged in the last month.

Egyptian official Cairo said the United States working on the basis of a new Israeli troop withdrawal in the Sinai Desert, but that President Sadat told American newspaper an agreement had already been reached.

In spite of conflict over just what President Sadat said in an interview with Hearst newspapers, it was clear that negotiations aimed at a new Egyptian-Israeli agreement had reached a crucial stage.

Until now, Egypt rigidly insisted that the Israel should pull back completely from the Sinai Desert, the Suez Canal. Mr Sadat was quoted by the Hearst interview saying that Egypt would now the United States to evict and operate an early warning system in the Sinai desert, but the eastern ends of the Sinai.

This plan closely embodied an earlier proposal Israel. In return for the Israeli withdrawal, President Sadat has proposed a one-year truce of the United Nations peacekeeping mandate in Sinai, which expires on July 24.

A one-year extension falls short of what Israel has been seeking, namely a period of several years in which Egypt would promise not to go to war in Sinai.

Egyptian officials said they expected to learn whether an agreement was within reach after a meeting in London on Saturday between Dr Kissinger and Mr Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister.—Reuters.



Empress and Mrs Ford: America's First Lady with Empress Farah of Iran (left), who attended a lunch at the White House on Wednesday. During the lunch it was announced that the nineteenth-century wallpaper depicting revolutionary battle scenes had been removed from the family dining room of the White House. Both the Fords and the Nixons were unhappy with the historic wallpaper, which was obtained by Mrs Jacqueline Kennedy. According to a press secretary, the room is now painted a "bright sunny yellow", and the wallpaper stored for possible reuse. The work was done more than a month ago but only revealed when the lunch was held. Formerly, the press secretary said, "it was a depressing scene while eating dinner".

Handful of votes has Senate in trance

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, July 10.—The Senate has been in a state of trance for weeks past in its inability to decide who won the senatorial election in New Hampshire last November. The Republican and Democratic candidates came within a handful of votes of each other and the Senate, which is the final authority on its own membership, has been recounting and arguing over disputed ballots ever since.

There is a large Democratic majority and the Republicans accuse it of trying to steal the election. The rules committee spent several months examining the ballots and the final Senate vote, in theory, is examining the doubtful ones. In fact it is arguing over which ones to examine, and how, and the Republicans are filibustering the debate to death.

Yesterday, for the fifth time, the majority tried to cut off the debate, and once again failed to muster the 60 votes needed. Senator James Allen, a Democrat from Alabama, had the pleasure of helping defeat the closure motion yet again: he was defeated last January by his colleagues who cut the number of Senators needed to end debate.

Mr Allen said that his opponents were destroying democracy, which he equated with unlimited debate. Apparently his fears were premature.

The Republicans claim that the Democrats' scheme for resolving the outstanding issues is blatantly unfair and will give the election to the Democrats. The question is what to do with "skip" ballots, so called because some voters, presented with the usual lengthy ballot, put their crosses in the box on top of the Republican or Democratic list, meaning that they approved the whole slate of the party of their choice—but then went on to tick off all the appropriate names in the full list, missing out only the candidate for Senator.

The disputed ballots are mostly Republican, and that party, therefore, claims that the voters meant to support the entire slate but missed the senatorial candidate, Mr Louis Wyman, by mistake. The Democrats want to disregard the approval of the whole Republican slate and admit instead only the voting for individual candidates—and so on, leaving out Mr Wyman.

Since the margin between the two, according to various counts, was two votes, the issue is crucial. If the Democrats win the Senate vote, down Mr Wyman's 35 "skip" ballots then Mr Durkin will win the seat. The Republicans have therefore mounted their filibuster, to the great detriment of other Senate business.

They want a new election and the Democrats are reluctantly coming to admit that they will either have to concede Mr Wyman's victory or allow the voters of New Hampshire to decide.

The House of Representatives is doing its best to emulate the Senate, however. In Maine last November, the incumbent Representative Mr Peter Kyrus, a Democrat, was defeated by a Republican, Mr Peter Emery, by 679 votes. This was reduced to 431 on recount, and now the elections subcommittee is plunging into a reconsideration of 3,915 disputed ballots.

Furthermore, they are slowly working their way up to a full recount of a congressional election in Nebraska which a Republican, Mrs Virginia Smith, won by some 2 per cent. A Senator's term runs for six years, and so Mr Wyman or Mr Durkin will still have plenty of time to see to his constituents' affairs when the New Hampshire election is at last decided.

Representatives serve for two years at a time, however, and Mr Emery and Mrs Smith, therefore, who have been seated by the House but whose position is now under attack by the huge Democratic majority, both feel the sands running out.

Israel urges Western companies to defy 'toothless tiger' of Arab trade boycott

By Edward Morimer
The Israel Government has lately decided to take the Arab trade boycott more seriously.

Mr Dan Halperin, an adviser to the Israeli Finance Minister, told a press conference in London yesterday.

This was not, he explained, because Israel believed the boycott was effectively applied. On the contrary, it was "a toothless tiger". The danger was that Western companies might believe in it and refuse to do business with Israel for fear of being excluded from the Arab market, which had lately become much more important.

The boycott Mr Halperin was talking about is not the direct boycott of Israel itself—which is recognized by Israel against the Arab countries and accepted as a normal consequence of the state of war. He was referring to the "secondary boycott" of firms in neutral countries, which started in the early 1950s, and which he described as "a kind of economic terrorism". It was as if firms were kidnapped

and forced to pay a ransom. The ransom demanded was the severance of all economic relations with Israel.

The correct response, Mr Halperin said, was to refuse to give in to the boycott and the Arabs think they need this money, they bend the rules," he said there had been recent cases of companies on the Arab black list which had been approached by the Egyptians and told that the way to get off the list was to invest in Egypt.

When Mr Halperin did not make clear that the boycott does not even pretend to affect all companies which trade with Israel, but only those which "strengthen Israel's economy or its military machine".

According to the statement of principles issued by the Arab Boycott Office in Damascus, it is "not applicable against companies which have pure normal trade dealings with Israel such as selling to it their completely finished-outside-Israel products except those beneficial to the

war effort of Israel such as arms, military aircraft and ammunition."

A press release issued yesterday by the Arab League Information Centre in London, and evidently intended as a reply to Mr Halperin's press conference, pointed out that during the Second World War the Allies boycotted neutral firms which dealt with Nazi Germany. It also stated that the boycott weapon was first introduced into the Arab-Israel conflict by the Zionist side as long ago as 1936, when "Zionist settlers in Palestine banned the use of any Palestinian manual power".

Britain's official position on the Arab boycott is simply not to recognize its existence. Department of Trade officials when consulted by British firms, point out that there is no reason why any firm cannot trade with both Israel and the Arab countries. The wisdom of any greater involvement in Israel is left to the commercial judgment of the company concerned.

"How can I invest some of my capital so I'll never have to sell at a loss?"

The way the investment fluctuates today, if I had to raise some money quickly, there's a risk that I'd lose half their original cost.

you avoid if some of your capital is invested in the Woolwich.

Right, Even if everything else has fallen, you can get all your money back at short notice.

Exactly what I've been thinking. But what about interest rates? 7% doesn't sound a lot.

But don't forget that that's the equivalent of 10.77% if you pay tax at the basic rate of 35%. Where could you get better than that today without taking a gamble or locking yourself into a long term investment?

I take your point.

In brief

Romania floods chaos worsens

Vienna, July 10.—Ten thousand people were today reported homeless in central Romania, as troops and volunteers battled against the floods which are now entering their second week.

The Government confirmed severe losses in industry and agriculture throughout the country. The Danube is still rising.

Cautious welcome

Ankara, July 10.—Mr Demirel, the Turkish Premier today welcomed President Ford's approach to end America's embargo on arms for Turkey, while indicating wariness of any conditions Washington may impose on future weapons sales.

Euphrates talks

Ankara, July 10.—Iraq and Turkey agreed in principle today that problems arising from the use of the Euphrates river which runs from Turkey through Syria into Iraq should be settled in tripartite talks with Syria.

Drugs protester freed

Rome, July 10.—Signor Marco Panella, leader of Italy's Radical Party, who was arrested nine days ago after smoking hashish in public to protest against the country's drug laws, has been released from jail on provisional liberty.

'Leave our islands'

Moroni, Comoro Islands, July 10.—President Ahmed Abdallah today called on the French military personnel "proving round out islands" to leave as quickly as possible. The islands have declared themselves independent of France.

Argentina Cabinet

Buenos Aires, July 10.—President Isabel Peron, who yielded to wage demands this week and a general strike, plans to announce a new Cabinet tomorrow, a Government spokesman said.

Delhi decision week

Delhi, July 10.—Both Indian Houses of Parliament will meet from July 21 to 28 when Mrs Gandhi is expected to seek approval for the state of emergency declared two weeks ago.

Tarantula guard

San Francisco, July 10.—A tarantula has been placed in the window of a jewelry shop here to deter burglars. A sign in the window says "Warning, this area patrolled by tarantulas."

M Chirac for Romania

Paris, July 10.—M Chirac, the French Premier, is to pay an official visit to Romania from July 24 to 28.

Hopes for closer links with Uganda after Hills release

Continued from page 1

"I am very sorry that I am leaving Uganda but I will never forget this country and the kindness of the people and my pleasure in teaching Ugandan students."

His wife, who is staying on in Uganda "to finish things off" was also at the airport to bid him farewell. "You look after yourself," Mr Hills told her.

Meanwhile Mr Callaghan had been given a personal tour of Kampala by General Amin, who was driving his own car and showing every sign of good feeling. He even drove Mr Callaghan to the airport.

Before leaving Uganda Mr Callaghan made it clear that he had made no concessions to secure Mr Hills' release. "The President has made a gesture of magnanimity," he said. "He did not wish to bargain and no one wishes to enter into a bargain over Mr Hills."

Expressing his thanks to General Amin, Mr Callaghan added: "He has expressed a very sincere desire for an improvement in relations between Uganda and Britain and his action today foreshadows it. That I have told him and he accepts it, as I accept his desire that relations should be improved."

As for the two people who were alleged to be British spies, President Amin told him that in the general amnesty they had been released and sent back over the border. No names were given, and this shadowy incident is now apparently forgotten.

Mr Callaghan said that as far as the future of the British community in Uganda was concerned, President Amin had said that he would like them to remain and was very anxious and glad to have their assistance in his country.

For his part, the Foreign Secretary said that from his conversations in Kampala he knew that the British who worked there loved the people of Uganda and wished to stay on and work in security.

Their position is bound to remain uncertain, however, despite a rousing speech by Mr Callaghan to British residents at a party on the laws of the High Commission on Wednesday evening. There was great understanding of their position back home, he told them.

Many of you have made your own choice to stay and you are to be admired for making that choice.

"The British community and the British people never fight harder than when the odds are against them and when the going is hardest," he added to cheering cheers.

All in all, Mr Callaghan has accomplished his mission as he hoped, though its outcome was always in doubt until the moment Mr Hills was handed over.

Leading article, page 15

ENTERTAINMENTS

When telephoning use prefix 01 only outside London Metropolitan Area

OPERA AND BALLET

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THE ARTS

Not flashy enough

Royal Flash (a)

Odeon, Leicester Square

The Wilby Conspiracy

(aa)

London Pavilion/

Astoria/Metropole

Beautiful People (u)

Warner West End 2

Out of Season (x)

ABC,

Shaftesbury Avenue

Maybe it was just not a very

good idea in the first place to

film *Royal Flash*. So much of

the joke of George MacDonald

Fraser's books is literary: as

Thomas Hughes's caddish

Flashman wanders through the

pages of Victorian history and

action, it is the contrast of his

crystalline wit with the

high-toned discretion of the

originals that provides the

spice, rather than the anec-

dotes themselves. The film,

concentrating on the events,

and with Flashman, however

winningly personated by Mal-

colm McDowell, as a passive

participant in them rather than

a sharp and subjective com-

mentator, rather loses sight of

the main point.

In *Royal Flash* Flashie

sleazes with Lola Montez, at-

tempts to seduce the young

Bismarck, with historical results,

and is transported by them to the

country of Rupert of Hentzau,

to double for a dim German

princeling who romantically

linguishes in a horrid dux

of the genre, waiting without

much interest or enthusiasm, to

be rescued.

The difference between this

and Anthony Hope or his mas-

ter Alexandre Dumas is that

however much they dalled

over episodes and incidental

characters, they never lost

sight of an ultimate narrative

destination. Without the liter-

ary joke, *Royal Flash* becomes

a disjointed series of incidents

with no particular impulse to

arrive anywhere. In a Dumas

or Hope novel, the action itself

provides the drive, here it

tends to provide only retarding

interludes in a plot which is

chivvied on mostly through

talk.

As with *Soldier Blue*, the

obvious exploitation of a se-

rious theme might be justified

in terms of popular enlighten-

ment: this lusty and violent

entertainment might force on

people's attention the brutal-

ities of the South African situ-

ation. But the argument is

fairly tenuous, when the blacks

This is the only explana-

tionable of the otherwise unac-

countable of the film

which is the benefits of

excellence (Florida Bol-

kan, Alates, Lionel Jef-

fries) at the expense of

the stage itself, in fact pro-

vides a plain deadweight

for instance a costly and

elaborate of the inau-

guration railway is set up

to the development and a

single game changes the

the history instead of

the end which is bumped

in the way. The dogs

are all and large dispersed

through film like fatality

raising a soggy puddle;

and the dogs are even

fewer than the dogs.

Richard Lester has always

been an unpredictable director.

Evening that Dumas

gave him better framework

to work at least where the

first one two *Flashman*

films concerned, the

comedy here seems

astonishingly less confident,

even to extent of his being

forced pale imitation of

some one else (the anach-

ronism of the undercur-

rent of unbled asides from

the attitudinizing he de-

veloped successfully in his

previous stunts comedies.

Defining genius through an affair with Picasso

In the autumn of 1944 when she was 17 and he already 63, Genevieve Laporte interviewed Pablo Picasso. The interview turned into a friendship, the friendship became an affair, albeit interrupted and short-lived, and now some 30 years later she has recorded the affair in a book called *Swishine at Midnight*, published recently by Weidenfeld and Nicolson.

Meeting Genevieve Laporte in London the other day, now an immaculate career lady in her late forties, one was struck immediately by how far apart she stands from such other Picasso ladies as Françoise Gilot and Jacqueline; a successful Parisienne "counselor in foreign relations" to several large industrial concerns, she is dedicated to that work and her 12-year-old son, the child of a broken marriage to a French Deputy. The Picasso summers are clearly only a part, and now a very remote part, of a crowded life.

In 1944, immediately after the Liberation and just before her first meeting with Picasso, Genevieve Laporte organized the first post-occupation student exchange scheme between Paris and London. But her real ambition then was to be a journalist.

The autumn of 1944 was a little like May '68 in Paris: everything was in turmoil and anything seemed possible for students like myself who were politically conscious—it was going to be a whole new world.

I was a student leader at the Lycée Fénélon and we had a newspaper called *La*

Voix de Fénélon which, although I didn't know it at the time, went to press just 200 metres from what was then Picasso's studio in Paris. Anyway, at the Salon d'Automne that year Picasso had an exhibition and some of his paintings were torn off the walls by a supposedly "fascist" gang and hurled into the street. Our paper decided to try to get an interview with Picasso about what had happened, and we drew straws to see who should go along. I drew the shortest, although I still think that was fixed because they thought I looked the prettiest, and two other girls came with me to the door of his studio to make sure I didn't change my mind.

It was not an easy interview: "While he was showing me some of his paintings I took the plunge and uttered the terrible words 'I don't understand'... Before I realized what I was doing a storm had broken over my head. Picasso was cross: 'Understand? That's just it! Since when has a painting been a mathematical demonstration?'"

But despite that uneasy start, Picasso invited Genevieve Laporte to return to his studio time and again and in 1951, after she'd been to study at Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania, they went to the South of France together. A year or two later Picasso did the illustrations for a published collection of her poems but the progress of their friendship was a halting one and by 1959 they'd met for the last time:

"His work came first, last and always: friendships were usually incidental and I think perhaps I missed—simply by not being there—the moments when he needed me most. But our friendship was not a cause for regrets and I don't believe he ever felt that, either: to be with him was an unforgettable pleasure. He was the only man I ever met who could express himself as quickly in his painting as with his voice maybe that's a definition of his genius."

"There was a kind of court around him always—children, admirers, art people—and he had fixed hours for visitors: usually between eleven and two in the afternoon. Protocol around him was odd formal but I think he found with me a kind of occasional escape—he kept my telephone number, you know, in his spectacle case."

"When we first met, in 1944, he gave me a toothbrush and some American chocolate: my mother was horrified—she said one must never take presents from strangers without giving something in return so the next time I visited the studio I took a huge piece of cheese."

"One summer we went to St Tropez together, and another to Vallauris; Jacqueline was already there, selling ceramics, but Picasso had parted by then from Françoise and his last affair had not yet begun. Vallauris was very ugly: a tiny garden, he had there but a beautiful studio built out of an old



Ink drawing of Genevieve Laporte by Picasso, dated July 29, 1951.

stable. After that summer we parted and when we met again, several years later, it was in the Auberges des Maures in St Tropez. Was there with my husband and some friends: when Picasso had finished eating he put from his table, came over to where we were, and issued

me without saying a word. I never saw him again. But I've not written this book now to settle any old accounts—why else would I have waited until after his death before writing about him? Nobody else waited that long."

Sheridan Morley

A hundred-and-fifty years of feeling instead of seeing

The sightless men and women of the world are celebrating the invention that brought a great light into their darkness, and reading and writing to their fingertips. A French boy called Louis Braille perfected his system of reading by touch 150 years ago. His invention is now universally accepted from China to Peru; and the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind has named 1975 as Louis Braille Memorial Year.

Accordingly the Bulgarians are producing a Braille calendar. The Australians are having their National Braille Week. The British are producing a film, pamphlets, and sermons. And blind people, the vast majority of whom are not sightless, are often more perceptive than seeing men at recognizing the things that matter in life, are making their contributions to commemorate Louis Braille.

Without Braille many great talents would have been wasted in darkness. Great orators, jazz pianists, and other musicians of world class would have been lost to the public. Sir Rupert Cross, Victorian Professor at Oxford, would have found it harder to become such a pillar of the English Law. And apart from these and other blind stars, many thousands of ordinary blind men and women would have been deprived of their most important means of communication with the outside, seeing world.

Attempts to invent an efficient method of reading by touch do not stretch back, as far as we know, quite to blind Homer; but they have a respectable history. Zain-Din al Amidat of the great blind Arab lawyer and what has become Iraq, improvised a method to identify his books and make notes as early as the 14th century. In the 16th century Mexicans created a string alphabet, in which different knots and combinations of knots represented different sounds.

Many other tactile forms of writing were tried, notably by Valentin Haüy, the great French educator of the blind in the 18th century. Most of them used embossed or engraved letters of the alphabet, so that a cunning finger could "read" them. These systems were resisted by the sighted, and were therefore not amenable to sight to touch. They were difficult for blind people to learn, and it was impossible for blind people to "write" with them.

Louis Braille was born in 1809 at Coupvray, northeast of Paris. His father was the village schoolmaster. At the age of three, Louis had an accident while playing with tools in his father's workshop, and became blind. He was a bright

boy, and won a scholarship to the *Institution Nationale des Jeunes Aveugles* in Paris, where he was encouraged to read by making outlines of letters with unobscured nails.

In 1821 a former Captain of Artillery, Charles Barbier, visited the *Institution* to explain his system of "night writing", which, he claimed, would enable soldiers in the field to communicate with each other in the dark. The Captain's system was based on raised dots representing different phonetic values, which with practice could be deciphered rapidly by touch.

The lecture, combined with memories of his father's unobscured nails, inspired Louis Braille. He with the vision of a genius, he refined the raised dot system and making it more flexible and less cumbersome. Eventually he reduced the number of dots needed from twelve to six, arranged in a matrix of two vertical columns of three, like a domino six. Using the 64 possible combinations of dots and blank spaces, Braille developed a comprehensive system of letters, numerals, and musical notation.

By 1825, when Louis Braille was only 16, his system was complete. With a few minor alterations it is the reading system that is universally used by the blind today. The great advantage of Braille was that it enabled blind people to write as well as read. Louis Braille, being blind himself, knew from experience the difficulties that blind people had with the embossed roman alphabet systems, and overcame them by using easily remembered and easily deciphered dot patterns.

In spite of its advantages, it took more than 50 years for Braille to be generally accepted as a system that the embossed alphabets that men with eyes imposed on men without.

Today Louis Braille is recognized as one of the great liberators. His system is used all over the world. In Britain the Royal National Institute for the Blind publishes about 300 new titles in Braille every year, and nearly 30 titles in Braille are included in the indispensable Braille edition of the *Radio Times*. Trevor Davies of the RNIB says: "Louis Braille made the whole of man's cultural achievement accessible to men who have no sight. Through Braille Arabs meet Jews, West Germans meet East Germans; reading for the blind transcends all the barriers of the seeing world. The pattern of raised dots in the seeing and the insensitive to be a modest invention. But for about one in 500 of the world's population, it is a discovery of far more significance than nuclear fission, television, space travel, and even the wheel."

Philip Howard

Crashing into the car age

Those Russians who can afford it seem to be literally crashing into the automotive age. The Ministry of Automobile Transport claims private drivers were responsible for 44.6 per cent of road accidents in the RSFSR in 1974. This would be roughly 10 times their share in the early sixties.

According to the Ministry there are now more than eight million private car owners in the RSFSR or Russian Federation. Largest of the 15,000 of the Soviet Union's total area and a population of 135 million, or 53 per cent of the total which works out to about one private car for every 15 inhabitants. Though the gap with Britain the United States and other advanced western nations is wide it narrows steadily as production soars, from 344,000 in 1971, when the giant plant at Togliatti-Volga began turning out Fiat type Zhigulis, to the present 1,125,000 unit.

The high per cent of crashes involving private cars is due not only to their increased numbers, but to bad driving. Whereas professional chauffeurs and lorry drivers undergo comparatively strict tests, the requirements for car owners' "amateur" license is rather lax.

The Ministry complains that owing to the indifference of local authorities in some areas, only 40 per cent of private car operators attended driving schools. The State driver's license is as much of a road menace in the Soviet Union as in the West. Worse yet are the "summer drivers" who keep their cars in storage through the long cold months, or simply leave them to hibernate outside in the snow melts.

Car thefts and vandalism are also serious problems. Thieves are usually professionals who dismantle the stolen vehicle and sell the parts, or change the

licence plates and engine number and drive it to the Caucasus, to sell it for several times the list price.

The thieves are no "respecters" of persons. An officer of the American Consulate in Leningrad bought a Zhiguli, intending to take it back to the United States this summer when his term expired.

He lived in a block of flats—not within a diplomatic "ghetto"—and without the special police protection and no garage facilities. The first night he parked his new car in the courtyard it was stripped of windshield wipers and side mirrors. A few nights later the vehicle vanished. As it was insured against theft, he was replaced it without cost, only to have the second car stolen before he could arrange insurance.

One western diplomat recently lost the side mirror from his Volvo. Imagine his surprise when, at a Bolshoi theatre ballet performance, he saw an expensive car parked in a few seats away, replaced from her handbag a Volvo mirror identical with his, when she wanted to adjust her make-up.

There are also gangs of rascals, who out of envy or sheer malice, slash tyres or scratch obnoxiousness on the car bodies. As very few car owners have garages they are exposed to all such hazards.

As a means of self-protection, the volunteer society, "Automobiles of the RSFSR", was launched last year. Its purpose is to help private car owners with their garage, maintenance and repair problems, and to improve their driving proficiency. So far it has recruited half a million members, enrolled in 15 chapters. One of the most active chapters is in the far eastern Amur region, where the agreement with the traffic police, whereby minor offences by its members, instead of being adjudicated, are referred to the chapter, which summons the offender, extracts him a stern lecture and extracts his promise to be more careful. It is claimed this corrective procedure is far more effective than imposing fines or punishing a hole in the driver's licence, which after three punches is suspended for a year.

Edmund Stevens

SPORT

Rowing

British coach hopes that four and four will make a fast eight

By Jim Railton

Despite Leander-Trademan's success in winning the Grand at Henley last Sunday, the national coach, Janousek, is still apparently uncertain about whether to concentrate on an eight or two fours for this year's world rowing championships. This weekend a large British contingent compete in the Lucerne three-day international regatta on the Rudez where the British eight made their breakthrough last year to take the silver medal in the fourth world championship. Over the weekend, the British national training team eight will split into a boxed and a four to represent the Amateur Rowing Association.

The stern of the British eight will row as a boxed four and will contain four of the team's top rowers. The boxed four will be the world bronze medal winners from West Germany and the Czech Republic. The boxed four in the 1973 European championships. An interesting entry in this event, the London University rowing team, won the Prince Philip at Henley last Sunday and will not doubt see the ARA four entry as a trespasser in this event.

The coxed four stroked by Yallop, of Leander, backed by three Thames Trademen, will also meet formidable opposition. Entered in this event are two Russian fours, two Hungarians and the West Germans, who won the bronze medal in Lucerne last year. The last time the British eight divided into two fours was in 1971, when they won the world championship in the coxed four. The boxed four five lengths behind the coxed four, will be a length behind the East German world champions (the East Germans won six gold medals in the eight events in last year's world championships). Janousek, too, will certainly be taking a look at the East German eight in Lucerne. This eight contains half of the crew, who left behind a new British coxed four, and four of their other rowers, who won the European championship in the coxed four at Amsterdam, who on the same day as the Nottinghamshire regatta, beat the West German "super eight" by five lengths.

Janousek will be looking for second results from his four in the hope that two fast fours will

combine to make a final class eight. Baillieu and Hart, Britain's European and world bronze medal winners in double sculls, found no opposition at all at Henley. After an indifferent season so far, Lucerne would be the place to show their class. Their principal opponents will be final class crews for this year's world championships from Russia, Norway, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria.

Sean Drea, winner of the Diana Regatta, makes his first trip of the season to the continent. Drea's rivals include Kolbe (West Germany) and Dietz (United States), whom he outclassed at Henley, and three relatively unknown Russian scullers—Akinov, Duleev and Schmedt. The British scullers entered in Lucerne are Bryan and Brown, who failed to impress at Henley.

The regatta starts today with heats and repechages with the semi-final rounds on Saturday and the final on Sunday. This will be the penultimate visit by British rowers to the continent and an important one for crews in almost every event, who have still to impress the selectors.

Athletics

Foster warns his European rivals

By Neil Allen

Athletics Correspondent

The European Cup has a reputation for producing middle distance races so many that they often resemble a relay. That will not be the case, however, with the Cup semi-final round 5,000 metres at Crystal Palace on Sunday. For that I have the word of our European champion, Brendan Foster.

Yesterday Foster told me from Gateshead: "It's not going to be an insignificant race if I have anything to do with it. This is my first 5,000 metres in a long time and I want it to be a good one. I want to beat him. I want a negative type of race over 2,000 metres at Crystal Palace last Friday when I didn't get up with the pacemaker and it didn't leave me feeling happy."

Fortunately, Foster, he believes, is not too closely related to his speciality. "It's very different running at around four laps and then kicking with a final 400 in the low 50s, to going 12 laps. I would have liked to have found more speed last Friday but all my training this summer has been aimed for 5,000 and now I feel I'm on my way up towards the kind of form I had just before I won the European title in Rome last year."

It is true that Foster ran a "tactical" race when he won the 5,000 metres final of the European Cup in Edinburgh in 1973. But he points out that he was then running only the second serious 5,000 metres of his life, was weak and concerned about getting maximum

points for Britain. On Sunday he hopes the field will include not only Malinowski, of Poland, but also the Swedish ace, Bengt Forsberg, because: "They're both good boys and I want the race to be tough, to mean something."

Foster's three fastest 5,000 metres races are: 13min 14.6sec for a silver medal in the Commonwealth Games, 13min 17.2sec for his European title, and 13min 23.2sec for his first AAA title over the distance in 1973. He says, perhaps significantly, he reserves sub 13 minutes for his second or third major championships. "When I asked him how he rated the semi-final of the European Cup he replied carefully: 'Fairly major'."

Today he will go to watch the first day of the English Schools Championships at Co Durham and back to his room at Crystal Palace. "The way they're running their hearts out can rekindle your enthusiasm." That sounds excitingly like the "big Ben" who inspired himself to crush all comers at the European Cup last September.

Alan Pascoe will not decide until today whether an injured hamstring will allow him to compete in the Cup's 400 metres hurdles. He told me yesterday: "There has been considerable progress in the past 48 hours and after talking with my coach, George Tyman, tomorrow I'll make my decision. I want to run very much but it's difficult to decide. I broke down. I just don't want to let the team down like that when Bill Hartley could be such a reliable replacement. After training this evening I'll have to tell the Russian team what I can do yesterday without their double

Olympic sprint champion, Valeri Borovkov, who the team's Azag Gerschikov explained, was resting before the forthcoming national championships and European Cup final, as he had not been feeling very well and needs a short break."

Instead the Russians will run Kolesnikov, best time 10.2sec, in the 100 metres and Alimov, best time 21sec, in the 200 metres, leaving Alexander Kornelyuk, an Olympic finalist, to concentrate on the sprint relay. The great Russian long jumper, Igor Ter-Ovanesyan, who is now a national coach, acquired first about his old friend and rival Lynn Davies, and then pointed out to me that his team here would be bleeding new internationalists in the 800, 1,500 and 5,000 metres.

Mr Gerschikov said this was an experiment which they hoped would help to raise the standards of Russian middle distance running, which was gradually catching up with the best in the world. He said the team's main strength was the team for Crystal Palace, which he throws would be interesting to see the competition in the pole vault between the Soviet Union and Poland.

The impression of a team solidly confident, even for the European Cup final, was so obvious that I switched the questions to tomorrow's European Cup final. There would be no early departure for North America, Mr Gerschikov said, but he agreed that middle distance runners might have to wait for several days at high altitudes in the Soviet Union "if they can take time from their training". Novosibirsk, a town of 100,000, was a comfortable town "Simon Pures" of

Motor racing

Hill and Hulme taking to the track again

By John Blunden

Two former world champions will come out of retirement at Brands Hatch on Sunday to take part in the other Grand Prix drivers in a special Lord's Taverners charity race at the wheel of ShellSport Ford Escorts. They are James Hill and Mike Hulme, who retired after the United States Grand Prix last October, and Graham Hill, whose last Grand Prix drive was in the Africa in March, since when he has acted as manager of his own Embassy Hill team. Other drivers taking part include the Race of Champions winner, Tom Pryce, Carlos Pace, Bob Evans, Tony Brise, Alan Jones, Mark Donohue, David Charlton and Michael Wildt.

Before the Grand Prix drivers take to the track, the same cars will be used for two preliminary races. In the first they will be handled by designers and managers of the major formula one teams, including March, Hesketh, Hill, Shadow, Brabham, Williams and Lotus. Then the cars will be handed over to show business personalities and the results of the two preliminary races will determine the line-up for the Grand Prix drivers.

The three-part series of races will form part of a 10-race programme organised by the British Racing and Sports Car Club and beginning at 2.30. The main event will be a Southern Organisations race for formula Atlantic cars. In which Brise, the No 1 driver in Hill's team, will be seeking to extend his impressive list of formula Atlantic victories.

Modena, Italy, July 10.—Niki Lauda of Austria and Clay Regazzoni of Switzerland will drive Ferrari 312T models in the British Grand Prix at Silverstone on July 19.

Olympic Games

Deficit expected to reach over £100m

Quebec City, July 10.—Next year's Olympic Games in Montreal are expected to result in a deficit of over £100m, the organising committee for the Games told the Quebec Provincial Parliament yesterday.

Appearing before the Municipal Affairs Committee of Parliament, the organising committee members said total income from the Games was not expected to exceed £250m and total expenses were at present estimated at £350m. These figures exclude a £27m mortgage on the Olympic village. When the parliamentary committee considered the matter for the first time last January, the cost of the Games was estimated at \$27m.

In Ottawa today the Federal Government announced they were stringing up a plan to strike commemorative gold coins in connection with the Games. The Government said there was not enough time to vote the necessary law before the summer recess.—Agence France Presse.

Rugby League

Fulton declines European tour

Sydney, July 10.—Robert Fulton, Australia's outstanding Rugby League centre, told Mr Ernest Hammarston, chairman of the selectors, today that he would not be available to tour England and France later this year.

His wife, Anne, is expecting a child in October and Fulton has decided his place is with his family. "I have given the matter much thought and my family comes before football," Fulton said today.

Yachting

Narrow lead taken by Andersson

Hankoe, Norway, July 10.—A Swedish yacht, Amores II, skippered by Lars Andersson, took a narrow lead with 15 points in the first race of the three-quarter-ton cup yachting event here last night.

An Irish yacht, Golden Delicious, skippered by Ronald Holland, of Royal Cork Yachting Club, was second with 25 points, followed by a Danish yacht, Vætticake (Stanley Keen, Crouch Yachting Club) with 24 points and Solent Saracen (John McCarty, Lymington Yachting Club), with 23 points. A total of 25 yachts competed in the race sailed in calm conditions.—Reuter.

Helsinki, July 10.—Hylander, of Sweden, held the overall lead at the end of the second day of the world OK dinghy yachting championship here today. A West German, Pulenz, won today's only race, the third of the championship, which was sailed in fine weather with fresh winds. Batt, of Britain, was second with Lyhne, of Denmark, third.

THIRD RACE: P. Pulenz (1st), G. Batt (2nd), B. Lyhne (3rd), J. Hylander (4th), R. Holland (5th), J. McCarty (6th), S. Keen (7th), R. Keen (8th), J. Keen (9th), J. Keen (10th), J. Keen (11th), J. Keen (12th), J. Keen (13th), J. Keen (14th), J. Keen (15th), J. Keen (16th), J. Keen (17th), J. Keen (18th), J. Keen (19th), J. Keen (20th), J. Keen (21st), J. Keen (22nd), J. Keen (23rd), J. Keen (24th), J. Keen (25th), J. Keen (26th), J. Keen (27th), J. Keen (28th), J. Keen (29th), J. Keen (30th), J. Keen (31st), J. Keen (32nd), J. Keen (33rd), J. Keen (34th), J. Keen (35th), J. Keen (36th), J. Keen (37th), J. Keen (38th), J. Keen (39th), J. Keen (40th), J. Keen (41st), J. Keen (42nd), J. Keen (43rd), J. Keen (44th), J. Keen (45th), J. Keen (46th), J. Keen (47th), J. Keen (48th), J. Keen (49th), J. Keen (50th), J. Keen (51st), J. Keen (52nd), J. Keen (53rd), J. Keen (54th), J. Keen (55th), J. Keen (56th), J. Keen (57th), J. Keen (58th), J. Keen (59th), J. Keen (60th), J. Keen (61st), J. 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SPORT

Racing

Eddery goes flat-out and round two courses in title hunt

By Michael Seely

Northern racegoers are particularly well provided for this weekend at York, where the July meeting begins this afternoon. The highlight of a magnificent card on Saturday will once again be the John Smith's Magnep Cup with £5,000 added. Across the Pennines at Chester the centrepiece of their two day fixture will be the Chester Summer Stakes, run over the cup course on the second day.

The one and a quarter mile Magnep Cup, a great attraction in its own right, has often proved a more reliable guide to the future than many of the valuable weight for age races which supposedly carry far more prestige.

In 1973, the subsequent St Leger winner, Pelford, took the event carrying only 7st 9lb. Last year another three-year-old, Take a Reef, carried 8st 12lb to a most impressive victory over Superform Sam. By the end of the season, Take a Reef had not only pumped St Leger to a gallant win in the Ewel Handicap, but had also had the honour of being accorded pride of place in the Free Handicap for three-year-olds, 11b in front of the St Leger winner, Bustino, and 5lb ahead of the Derby winner, Snow Knight.

Since the betting opened on Tuesday, backers have plumped for Zimbalon, who was making his fourth race off the reel when winning an incredibly competitive King George V Stakes at Ascot. Dick Herr's three-year-old, strongly fancied to develop into a St Leger candidate, is now clear favourite at around 5-2.

But he faces a formidable opponent in the five-year-old mare, Calaba, who by her unlucky and narrow defeat at the hands of Fools Mate, at Ascot, stamped herself as the best older horse trained in this country apart from Bustino. Zimbalon, with 8st on his back on Saturday, is receiving 17lb from Calaba, which is 6lb

more than weight for age and sex. Zimbalon will have to be everything that the form book suggests and his convictions that he is to justify his present short price.

Patrick Eddery is racing at nothing in his attempt to hold on to the championship title he won last year. After riding at York this afternoon, Eddery will fly to Chester for their evening meeting. At York the leading rider takes the feature race of the day, the Black Duck Stakes for two-year-olds on Donald Young, yearlings, on Donald Young, Young, an impressive looking colt, won the Kenzie Maiden Stakes at Newbury in the middle of June.

Stern opposition will be provided by Scattered Scarlet, succeeded by two races outright for Michael Eddery before the dead-heat with Elite Princess for the Bonow Stakes at Ascot, but Young impressed as having the greater scope for improvement.

In the Monks Stakes, Eddery rides the consistent Super Kelly, who won his last three races. Super Kelly impressed as having his courage when going under narrowly to Somersway at Sandown Park but he may not give 10lb to another three-year-old, Genesis, ridden by Lester Piggett. Genesis, the conqueror of Dazzling Light at the Craven meeting, later finished a good second to Sunny West and Dun Habit conceding weight to both those useful animals. Piggett has long declared York to be his favourite race course and he can win the first two races this afternoon, the St Leger Stakes and the St Leger Handicap on Kampion and Coed Cochion.

Rampion finished like a rocket when sent to African Winter, on his first appearance at Windsor, Coed Cochion ran the race of his life in the Queen's Vase at Ascot before being overhauled in the final strides by Blood Royal.

Fair stands the wind for Allez France

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

The prospect of seeing Grundy and Allez France at the head of the pack at Ascot later this month in the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes took a turn for the better after Allez France yesterday after Daniel Wildenstein had seen his filly, Lianga, win the July Cup. Mr Wildenstein had been attempting to win a race in this country for longer than he cared to remember with one of his huge string of horses. But his luck in England is so far from good that he has changed with a vengeance yesterday and afterwards he said that he is now much more inclined to take the challenge at Ascot with Allez France.

Some thought that Saint-Martin might have shown his hand a fraction too soon, but he had not because, as time was to prove, he kept an ace in reserve which he effectively thwarted the efforts of Steel Heart and the other French challengers. Reilly, the chief jockey, said Lianga's name was added to the list of winners of the July Cup which includes four other good fillies in recent years, the winners of the July Cup, Lianga is also responsible for Saint-Martin, who won the race 12 months ago.

Noel Murless, who has had a frustrating year, pulled off a great stroke when he saddled Sagaro, a colt who had been pulled out of the race because of a muscle in her quarters in the spring and this was her first race since she won at Goodwood a little over a year ago. It was a fine



Yves Saint-Martin and Lianga

and during the parade a tribute to her temperament. But when the race came to the boil she was a ball of fire, exploding past the other horses and down the hill into the dip as Yves Saint-Martin played his cards to perfection.

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North America, where his sights will be set initially on the Man o' War Stakes at Belmont and then the Canadian International Championship at Woodbine.

A bold plan, but one which will mean that Sagaro will miss the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe if it is followed to the letter. Last year Dalia avoided another clash with Allez France in the Arc and won the Canadian race instead.

At the delights of Newmarket, racing descends to a lesser plain than at Ascot. The racing at Newmarket will be a season that Noel Murless will want to forget rather than remember. His Warren Place stables have been in the doldrums since the Lincoln at Doncaster in the spring. Broken Date, third in her last race at Salisbury behind Bayliff and Blue Bird, is a selection for the Birchfield Plate (2.15).

At Chester, Walwyn and Eddery can take both the two-year-old races, the Alice Hawthorn Stakes and the Cardinal Puff Stakes with Acquire and Anemos. Acquire lost his chance at the start in the race won by Dame Foolish at Nottingham but on his third to Nagwa at Leicester should be good enough today. Anemos, taking his second year, is a fluent scorer at the same Nottingham meeting.

Newmarket results

2.0 (2.1) FULBURN STAKES (2-y-o: £2,500)
1. Hilly Glen, b.c. by Habitat—Hazy (Mr. H. Thorne), 5-2
2. Trainers Best, b.c. by Tamerlane (Mr. H. Thorne), 11-10
3. Mollie, b.c. by Tamerlane (Mr. H. Thorne), 11-10
4. Yvonne (Mrs. O. Fox), 11-10

ALSO RAN: 1. P. Eddery (6-1) 2. Endless Echo (11-10) 3. Endless Echo (11-10) 4. Endless Echo (11-10) 5. Endless Echo (11-10) 6. Endless Echo (11-10) 7. Endless Echo (11-10) 8. Endless Echo (11-10) 9. Endless Echo (11-10) 10. Endless Echo (11-10) 11. Endless Echo (11-10) 12. Endless Echo (11-10) 13. Endless Echo (11-10) 14. Endless Echo (11-10) 15. Endless Echo (11-10) 16. Endless Echo (11-10) 17. Endless Echo (11-10) 18. Endless Echo (11-10) 19. Endless Echo (11-10) 20. Endless Echo (11-10) 21. Endless Echo (11-10) 22. Endless Echo (11-10) 23. Endless Echo (11-10) 24. Endless Echo (11-10) 25. Endless Echo (11-10) 26. Endless Echo (11-10) 27. Endless Echo (11-10) 28. Endless Echo (11-10) 29. Endless Echo (11-10) 30. Endless Echo (11-10) 31. Endless Echo (11-10) 32. Endless Echo (11-10) 33. Endless Echo (11-10) 34. Endless Echo (11-10) 35. Endless Echo (11-10) 36. Endless Echo (11-10) 37. Endless Echo (11-10) 38. Endless Echo (11-10) 39. Endless Echo (11-10) 40. Endless Echo (11-10) 41. 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PARLIAMENT, July 10, 1975

Compliance the key: anti-inflation measures to be effective and workable: waiting for White Paper

House of Commons

During questions about the Government's anti-inflation measures to be set out in a White Paper being published tomorrow (Friday) when he will be making a statement, Mr. Harold Wilson, Prime Minister, said that the Government was not too far from the mark in its proposals. The measures had to be effective and workable and that was what the Government was aiming at.

MR. BIRCH (Barwick upon Tweed, Lab.) said that even if the TUC General Council agreed unanimously to a voluntary policy on pay, they would not have the power to ensure compliance with it.

People face a reduction in the cost of living over the coming months (he said) and if they are to accept this they must be assured through a statutory policy that the sacrifice will be borne equally.

MR. WILSON (Huyton, Lab.)—What is important is not only the guidelines, or whatever the right phrase is, but the compliance. He added later: Yesterday's statement by the TUC was extremely forward looking, going much further than the TUC has ever gone in peacetime or wartime. This is essential to secure a successful attack on inflation.

MR. ATKINSON (Barnes, Lab.)—Does Mr. Wilson recall he came to the House and explained it was necessary to relax the application of the Price Code because it was creating serious cash flow difficulties in industry?

When he means the CBI will be expected to do the Government's bidding to go ahead with much more severe restraint on prices than we have so long enjoyed, the Government is not the CBI, apparently, that continuation along that road was not possible.

MR. WILSON—It is relevant to tell the CBI and TUC the general lines of the proposals we will be making. But the statement will be made to the House, where it should be made.

MR. BLAKER (Blackpool, South, Lab.)—Perhaps Mr. Wilson recalls what the Secretary of State for Employment (Mr. Foot) said on BBC's Newsday programme on December 16—that any government which introduced a statutory wage policy in any form would not have him as a member of it.

MR. WILSON—What we all said

all along on these matters referred to a criminal, almost criminal, workers, and Mr. Blaker must await the statement.

MR. ASHTON (Bassendun, Lab.)—Will Mr. Wilson disregard speculation in the newspapers about the Labour Party providing money as a form of insurance against the possibility of a crisis in the law? Will he tell employers that the Labour Party insist that this is not so?

MR. WILSON—What will be in the White Paper will be in the White Paper.

MR. THATCHER, Leader of the Opposition (Barnet, Finchley, C.), said she would like to know the details of the proposals. We have found it difficult to get any information about what has been going on during this crisis, or what the Government's policy has been. It has been much more convenient if the White Paper and the statement had been made together.

Can Mr. Wilson give some information about the Boyle report on Mr. Foot's pay?

MR. WILSON—I regret that it was not possible to make the statement today. Mrs. Thatcher has been patient about this over the last few days, but she will know the great importance of proceeding in agreement with the TUC, as we have succeeded in doing. Their meeting yesterday and it was right to take full account of the implications of their decisions in the White Paper tomorrow (Friday).

A statement will be made early next week about the Boyle report. I cannot say who will make it. I am the Leader of the House (Mr. Short).

MR. FAULDS (Warley, East, Lab.)—The majority of people in the country will support the Government's proposals to get the country through. Any MP who cannot support these necessary measures should stand down from the House. I am a Tory, but I support the Government wherever we might be shot of the rot of them.

MR. WILSON—Even Mr. Faulds's unending diatribe seems to have got in the end. He meant the word rot and not rot. I cannot speak obviously for what Opposition MPs will say because we have not heard of any of them. Mr. Faulds will say what he wants to say in the House.

MR. FAULDS—The Government will employ the system of cash limits for public expenditure. I know he will find it has the right edge to it. I am a Tory, but I support the Government wherever we might be shot of the rot of them.

MR. WILSON—What we all said

constituents are concerned that the Government should take effective measures to control inflation. The Government should act resolutely and take new powers and not be found guilty of inaction in the face of their friends.

MR. WILSON—He will be able to judge that with his customary fairness and he must be able to give full support to the White Paper.

MR. PETER MORRISON (City of Chester, C.)—What would be Mr. Wilson's answer to those constituents who increase wages and salaries above the 10 per cent norm? Will he support them just as he will support the Government's proposals?

MR. WILSON—He should wait for the White Paper. Inflation has local authorities particularly hard because they have to pay for the services and have a high employment rate. These are problems that have to be tackled.

MR. HOFFER (Liverpool, Walton, Lab.)—Will Mr. Wilson explain to the electorate why in the election manifesto we said we would not introduce any form of legislation to deal with incomes?

Will the White Paper indicate the back-up of any other type of system which means legislation and how this fits in with the manifesto? Will he explain to the electorate whether during the election campaign Mr. Wilson and his colleagues in the Government were aware of the fact that the Government was not in a position to take full account of the implications of their decisions in the White Paper tomorrow (Friday)?

MR. WILSON—My knowledge of the White Paper tomorrow (Friday) is that it will be a statement of the Government's policy. It will not be a statement of the Government's intentions. It will be a statement of the Government's policy.

MR. CANAVAN (West Strickland, Lab.) asked: Why does the Chancellor consider wage increases will be the major cause of inflation when over the last five years the percentage of GNP taken up by wages has increased by less than 1 per cent?

Will the Chief Secretary urge the Chancellor to introduce a price freeze in order to shield lower paid workers from the wage restrictions which will be introduced between the Chancellor and the CBI?

MR. BARNETT (Haywood and Ruyton, Lab.)—Whatever may have been the situation in the last five years, I doubt if anyone would disagree that the major cause of wage inflation has been one of the major causes of price inflation. (Labour protests.)

MR. GRIMMOND (Orkney and Shetland, Lab.)—It is not too late, will the Chancellor bear in mind regional differences throughout the country and different economic conditions? Some places are short of labour.

MR. BARNETT—All these matters will be taken into account.

MR. DAVID HOWELL, an Opposition spokesman on financial affairs (Guldford, C.)—The Chancellor has said that cash limits on pay in the public sector. When will these commence?

MR. BARNETT—He will not have to wait too long. He will have all answers tomorrow.

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MR. EDWARD SHORT, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House (Newcastle upon Tyne, C), after announcing the business for next week, said that there would be two days in the following week for the anti-inflation debate, and that there would be a Bill.

MRS. MARGARET THATCHER, Leader of the Opposition (Barnet, Finchley, C.), said she would like to know the details of the proposals. We have found it difficult to get any information about what has been going on during this crisis, or what the Government's policy has been. It has been much more convenient if the White Paper and the statement had been made together.

Can Mr. Wilson give some information about the Boyle report on Mr. Foot's pay?

MR. WILSON—I regret that it was not possible to make the statement today. Mrs. Thatcher has been patient about this over the last few days, but she will know the great importance of proceeding in agreement with the TUC, as we have succeeded in doing. Their meeting yesterday and it was right to take full account of the implications of their decisions in the White Paper tomorrow (Friday).

A statement will be made early next week about the Boyle report. I cannot say who will make it. I am the Leader of the House (Mr. Short).

MR. FAULDS (Warley, East, Lab.)—The majority of people in the country will support the Government's proposals to get the country through. Any MP who cannot support these necessary measures should stand down from the House. I am a Tory, but I support the Government wherever we might be shot of the rot of them.

MR. WILSON—Even Mr. Faulds's unending diatribe seems to have got in the end. He meant the word rot and not rot. I cannot speak obviously for what Opposition MPs will say because we have not heard of any of them. Mr. Faulds will say what he wants to say in the House.

MR. FAULDS—The Government will employ the system of cash limits for public expenditure. I know he will find it has the right edge to it. I am a Tory, but I support the Government wherever we might be shot of the rot of them.

MR. WILSON—What we all said

constituents are concerned that the Government should take effective measures to control inflation. The Government should act resolutely and take new powers and not be found guilty of inaction in the face of their friends.

MR. WILSON—He will be able to judge that with his customary fairness and he must be able to give full support to the White Paper.

MR. PETER MORRISON (City of Chester, C.)—What would be Mr. Wilson's answer to those constituents who increase wages and salaries above the 10 per cent norm? Will he support them just as he will support the Government's proposals?

MR. WILSON—He should wait for the White Paper. Inflation has local authorities particularly hard because they have to pay for the services and have a high employment rate. These are problems that have to be tackled.

MR. HOFFER (Liverpool, Walton, Lab.)—Will Mr. Wilson explain to the electorate why in the election manifesto we said we would not introduce any form of legislation to deal with incomes?

Will the White Paper indicate the back-up of any other type of system which means legislation and how this fits in with the manifesto? Will he explain to the electorate whether during the election campaign Mr. Wilson and his colleagues in the Government were aware of the fact that the Government was not in a position to take full account of the implications of their decisions in the White Paper tomorrow (Friday)?

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Will the Chief Secretary urge the Chancellor to introduce a price freeze in order to shield lower paid workers from the wage restrictions which will be introduced between the Chancellor and the CBI?

MR. BARNETT (Haywood and Ruyton, Lab.)—Whatever may have been the situation in the last five years, I doubt if anyone would disagree that the major cause of wage inflation has been one of the major causes of price inflation. (Labour protests.)

MR. GRIMMOND (Orkney and Shetland, Lab.)—It is not too late, will the Chancellor bear in mind regional differences throughout the country and different economic conditions? Some places are short of labour.

MR. BARNETT—All these matters will be taken into account.

MR. DAVID HOWELL, an Opposition spokesman on financial affairs (Guldford, C.)—The Chancellor has said that cash limits on pay in the public sector. When will these commence?

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possibility. (Labour protests.)

I am not sure it will not be possible to have the Bill and the Finance Bill in the following week. The House agreed after the experiment of the Bill Committee.

MR. HOFFER (Liverpool, Walton, Lab.)—Will Mr. Wilson explain to the electorate why in the election manifesto we said we would not introduce any form of legislation to deal with incomes?

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agreement on a voluntary incomes policy.

MR. KERSHAW (Stroud, C.)—Is it not wasting our time next week with two days on the Finance Bill when legislation over inflation will be brought in the following week?

MR. SHORT—He had better wait to see what it is.

MR. HOFFER (Liverpool, Walton, Lab.)—Will Mr. Wilson explain to the electorate why in the election manifesto we said we would not introduce any form of legislation to deal with incomes?

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Inside.

Inside this Rolex Oyster case, there's a hand-tuned rotor self-winding movement called, with good reason, the Perpetual. You never have to wind it up. Nor does it have a battery to run down.

Before this movement is placed within the safety of its Oyster case, we submit it to an independent body called the Swiss Institute for Official Chronometer Tests.

Here, for fifteen days and nights, the accuracy of the movement is subjected to the most rigorous series of tests. Hung in every conceivable wrist position, in varying temperatures, the movement has to achieve a remarkable degree of accuracy before it can be officially certified as a Chronometer.

This is a title the Swiss guard very carefully indeed. But over the years, Rolex have won nearly half the Chronometer Certificates which have ever been awarded, even though our painstaking production techniques allow us to produce a mere fraction of the annual output of Swiss watches.

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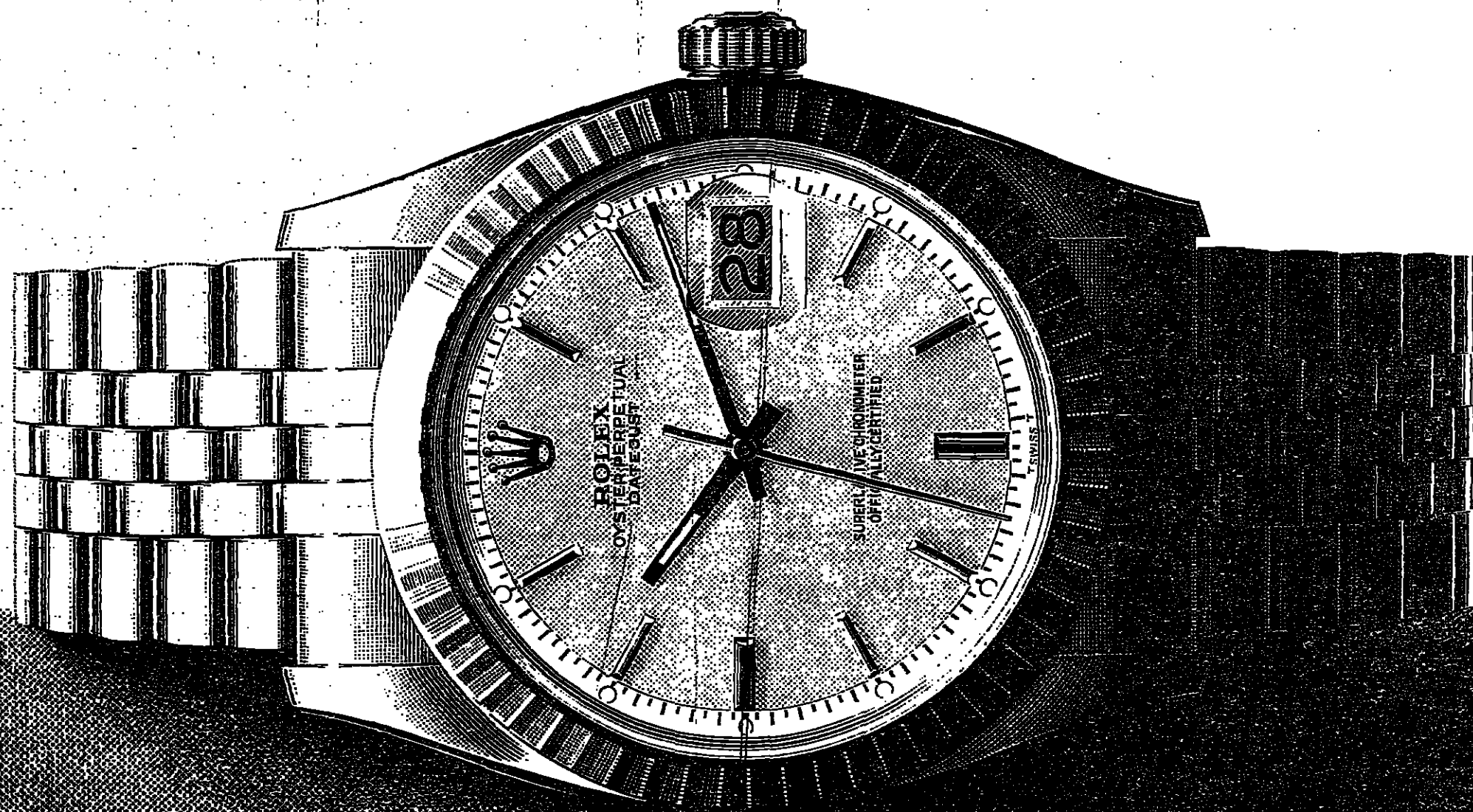
Rolex make many different Oysters. A Datejust in fine surgical steel costs £206, while an 18ct. gold Datejust costs £1,590. Or possibly you might prefer the platinum and diamond Day-Date. At something over £5,000, it's a very fine watch.

But, whichever Oyster you choose, you'll know that, inside and out, it's a remarkable example of the watchmaker's craft.

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The threat that hangs over all of us in this bureaucratic, complacent age

Let it be said plain. Mr Healey's announcement is the least bad piece of economic news we have had from this government. It should be followed up. But it is a sad commentary on our condition that it should be hailed such a relief.

Most people are now agreed that our troubles are political. Whether you believe that the cure lies in a statutory incomes policy or in a monetary policy or in a reduction of government expenditure or in more skilful management, or in a mixture of all four, the political will has to be generated. There is some sign that this is happening, but not enough. And having generated the will, where is the skill? And are Mr Wilson and some of his immediate colleagues, who are already looking pretty bedraggled, able to sustain the further humiliation of having to eat their words on a statutory incomes policy?

Then look at the targets. And remember that targets are seldom hit. If only three years ago we had been told that the best which can be achieved is an inflation rate of 10 per cent we should have said that we were headed for disaster. Then it was a terrible threat that inflation might reach double figures.

It is indeed the aims which are apparently accepted which are alarming.

There is the acceptance of a "mixed" economy. A "mixed" economy should mean a market economy subject to a firm framework established by the state and supported by the public services. It should mean an economy in which the public services perform a major role, say, some forms of transport, were run by public authorities for motives different from those which operate in commerce. It should mean an economy in which the public services are not subject to random interference from

and there. It should not mean confusion between motives of public administration and private commerce. Most important of all, the economy could survive quite a big nationalized sector, with some loss to the public welfare, so long as the private sector remained considerably the larger.

The main reason for this is because salaries, wages and interest rates in the public sector are based on the rates in the private sector. The fiction of commercial operation in the nationalized industries is no longer even remotely believable when the public sector is the larger. Now payments determined by no market, by no results, are made throughout the public sector with serious distortion on the economy.

Socialists have never succeeded in showing how you allocate resources or fix salaries and wages in a free society without a market. At present each successive government reduces the market area in the fixed economy; the economy therefore becomes progressively more unmanageable.

There is the acceptance of the size and nature of the public authorities. The civil service has doubled since 1939, leaving aside "fringe" bodies. In 1973 the public services employed 4.3 million people and by 1981 there will probably be another million. The staff has raised its pay including the pay of top officials further than inflation could have justified. It has pensions rising with inflation. Every local authority and public body has increased its staff. The staff in turn demand further resources of all kinds, their salaries and pensions have been doubled compared with the old authorities.

Every rat catcher has become a rodent operator, every treasurer demands an accountant; public relations officers, architects, religious instructors proliferate—all demanding that

'The British believe that they are a peculiarly sensible and skilful people. But are they? Skill seems to be exactly what we lack'



bane of the country—a career structure. Production is not rising and this huge bureaucracy has to be supported by a harassed, heavily taxed, abused and inflation-bound productive sector. The public sector has no incentive to stop inflation or economize. Indeed it is itself a major factor in spreading inflation.

Then we have appointments. Never has so much patronage been so concentrated in the hands of Ministers and their officials. The Secretary of State for Energy in an aside told us that while he was Minister of

Technology he made some 900 appointments. And he admitted that his officials made most of them. Lucrative posts are found for ambassadors and senior civil servants of every kind.

Would not the country benefit if they remained in its service if they are so able that they can easily master new jobs? It might very well benefit. But it would not suit the civil service to keep them. We have not begun to tackle appointments on a decentralised, competitive basis. The Bureaucratic Establishment is as firm as ever. Indeed with

such an Act—and they pour out—its power increases.

We are much too complacent about education. It has manifested its prime purpose of producing citizens with an over-all public morality and a sound understanding of the fact that if everyone gets 30 per cent more in money but there is no more goods to buy, none is better off and prices just go up. We subsidize some student unions to which the students pay little regard but which are engaged in breaking up the institutions the taxpayer provides.

We have a press and broadcasting which has many virtues but its selection and treatment of the news is often extraordinary. Narcissus was a self-deprecating violet compared with the attitude of many broadcasters to the BBC. The press reacts fiercely to threats of "closed shops" when it hits the press. But most of it took precious little notice of the "closed shop" as it clobered other people. Too often it reports the trivial, the sensational and such persons or subjects which it in its somewhat inbred world, regards as newsworthy.

We are told by the Government and others that we invest too little. But does it make sense for people to save and invest when industries are so over-manned? The trade unions insist on paid idleness in some industries. In many parts of the public and private sector it takes two or more British workers to do the job of one German, Japanese or American. And on top of all this, returns on investment are limited to a level at which, allowing for inflation, investment should logically only be made by the Government—with predictable results on freedom and efficiency.

We cheer the defeats of those who cheer our side and all too often and excuses for the enemies of freedom and civilization.

To sum up: the British believe that they are a peculiarly sensible and skilful people. But are they? Skill seems to be exactly what we lack. Man for man or woman for woman we achieve less than many of our neighbours. Our decision-making has been poor. We go loading committees on committees, legislation on legislation. Our handling of North Sea oil has hardly been skilful. We are swayed by fashions such as the worship of size. Our taxation penalizes enterprise. But our social services too often subsidize disruption. Areas of Belfast have been in anarchy for years.

Our Government talks nonsense about "rogue employers" but does nothing against strikes against the public. Our planning procedures have reduced great areas of our cities to uninhabitable deserts. And the bureaucratic attitude, hand in hand with inflation, stamps out originality.

Soon we shall be content to be described by a number and our qualification or the profession or union we belong to. Five or ten years ago the democratic counter-revolution in politics, art, inventiveness, economy, seemed to have a chance. Now Orwell and Graham Greene seem to have written in vain. If Mr Healey is going to succeed he must be carried on a new wave. He must be followed by a completely changed attitude to prestige, differentials and by a new view of society. For our troubles go far beyond the Exchequer. As they do not only in Parliament, the professions or the unions. Certainly leadership, in action and example, not merely talk must come from the top. But it must be supported when it does come.

Jo Grimond

The author is the Liberal MP for Orkney and Shetland. © Times Newspapers Ltd, 1975

Mr Karamanlis and the 'Balkan vision' of solidarity



Constantine Karamanlis was 10 in 1917 when the Bulgarians arrested his father, a Macedonian village schoolteacher, and exiled him to Bulgaria for 18 months because he had been helping Greek patriots fighting to free Macedonia.

In those parts to call one a "Bulgar" is a mortal offence even today. School children still make new friends out of Balkan enemies, creates pressures on Turkey which quite sensitive to this for diplomatic antagonism. In fact, both Greece and Turkey about the Cyprus problem are more concerned with international isolation which attributed by commentators to the absence of concrete action to settle the Cyprus problem in its present form.

Mr Karamanlis told me: "I do not believe there will be a world war. But there is one place outside the Middle East where there can be a local war, and that is the Balkans."

Here five different races, religions and political systems meet and coexist. The balance of power is very delicate. What we need is to consolidate this coexistence.

To achieve this Mr Karamanlis is proposing a system of bilateral relations between Balkan states to create, as it were, a network of multilateral co-operation. He went to Bucharest, Belgrade, and Sofia in recent weeks to present his plan and the reactions were positive.

"The fact that we know we can have such close cooperation even with rival systems lessens our need to depend on others," one Greek official said. "Good bilateral relations bolster a country's resistance to extraneous pressures."

The Greeks have two kinds of pressure in mind that could affect their country's future: the Greek-Turkish dispute over Cyprus and the Aegean (SMCLN) and the fear that a Balkan state could touch off another Soviet attempt to influence the future of Yugoslavia, thus upsetting the present equilibrium in the Balkans.

The Greek rapprochement with Bulgaria affects the Greek-Turkish dispute in two ways:

first, Bulgaria's reassurance about the inviolability of the Greek frontier, even if the face value only, has been Greek confidence that in a war with Turkey conflict are unlikely along the north borders. A similar pledge already been obtained Yugoslavia.

Secondly, the Greek drive to make new friends out of Balkan enemies, creates pressures on Turkey which quite sensitive to this for diplomatic antagonism. In fact, both Greece and Turkey about the Cyprus problem are more concerned with international isolation which attributed by commentators to the absence of concrete action to settle the Cyprus problem in its present form.

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The politics of cutting toenails in China

Peking

One of the hardest things for a European to understand about China is the importance ascribed to politics in all spheres of life.

The very word "politics" has derogatory implications in English. In Chinese, which translates it with a phrase closer in meaning to "government", it is the quintessential mode of behaviour, governing right and wrong conduct at all levels.

It sounds, to say the least, faintly ludicrous to an English ear, when the Chinese talk about the political aspects of clipping old women's toenails in a public bath-house. But whether one agrees with their political conclusions or not, it is hard to argue with the concept of the Chinese leaders that every social relationship has a political aspect.

Clipping toenails is a political act, because—as likely as not—the bath-house attendants who do it are middle-school graduates assigned to the work, and liable to resent it. The idea behind such a seemingly wasteful use of educated youngsters is to wipe out distinctions between workers, intellectuals and service employees, and this is a political concept if ever there was one.

Politics, to the western mind, is principally an activity involving other people. In the modern Chinese way of looking at it, politics is also a spiritual condition, something a person must sort out with himself, as a precondition for dealing properly with the world around him. Even Robinson Crusoe would have been a political animal, in order to survive, they would feel.

As religion defines the con-

flict within people as a battle between good and evil, Chinese theory portrays it as the struggle between "bourgeois" and "proletarian" attitudes. Thus Marxism becomes psychology as much as sociology.

An individual can vacillate indefinitely between the bourgeois and proletarian conditions. One who sees work as a means of personal gain is bourgeois; one who treats it as a contribution to the common cause is proletarian. In the modern Chinese way of looking at it, politics is also a spiritual condition, something a person must sort out with himself, as a precondition for dealing properly with the world around him. Even Robinson Crusoe would have been a political animal, in order to survive, they would feel.

There is nothing in this which cannot be derived from Marx and Lenin, but there is a special emphasis on the length of time needed to transform human attitudes during the transitional period known as socialism; and

there is a particular attention to the complexity of this task.

Although the Chinese ostensibly admire Stalin, little could be further from Stalin's practice than their own. He set out to remould men's minds by the crudest physical coercion, and for a while succeeded. He forced the pace of development by grinding the peasants, and alternately sweating and bribing the industrial workers. He set much store by systems of material incentives.

The Chinese under Mao have set their faces against material incentives in industry, calling it "bourgeois", and while still permitting it extensively in the rural areas, they reject it as anything but a temporary expedient. They have put the first priority on a sound agricultural base, both economic and political, and they have tended to favour persuasion

over coercion (though actual conditions often make it difficult to distinguish between the two).

Politics, as the state of mind governing policy, reaches out from the innermost recesses of the mind to the simplest, most trivial act, such as tending a tobacco patch. If the peasant is more interested in his tobacco patch than in the commune's grain crop, his politics are bad. The state adds it is a serious question which the Party must set right.

This over-riding emphasis on politics has made the old idea of a conflict between "red" and "expert" seem redundant. Political attitudes being most acutely expressed in a person's work, a "red" worker will necessarily be a good worker, and without a proper political

frame of mind one can never be a good "expert".

Similarly, the Chinese make no attempt to disguise or exorcise the political content of their modern art and drama. Art has no function outside politics, they would say. Even mere pretentiousness, such as a painting of plum blossoms, should catch some positive mood in the proletarian consciousness, spurring people to more ardent work.

It is all a long way from the western idea of politics as a necessary evil, but it is logical within the terms defined. And it has within those terms, worked. The question is whether it can go on working, without straining human nature beyond the tolerable limit.

David Bonavia

Why the Palestinians cannot be regarded as a minority

There is probably a lot of truth in the remark of a Beirut intellectual that 'the Palestinians would, in the end, do what their leaders tell them'

"Strictly speaking the Palestinians are not a minority at all", writes Colin Smith at the beginning of his Minority Rights Group report *The Palestinians* (MRG, 36 Craven St, London, WC2). Unfortunately he does not define explicitly who he means by "the Palestinians" but implicitly he accepts the United Nations definition, by which Palestinians are Arabs who were living in British-mandated Palestine in 1946-48, and their descendants.

The Arabs, Mr Smith points out, were still in a majority in Palestine on May 14, 1948, when the British mandate ended and the state of Israel was proclaimed. And today they are in a majority in Jordan (East Bank) as well as in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

He ignores, rightly in my view, the Israeli argument that Palestine included both banks of the Jordan, although he is wrong in thinking that the Palestine and Jordan of today correspond to the medieval Arab

provinces of Filastin and al-Urdun. The point is that Palestinian national consciousness, as distinct from Arab national consciousness, took shape only in the twentieth century, and what set the Palestinians apart from other Arabs was the knowledge that their country—Palestine as opposed to Syria, and after 1921 as opposed to Transjordan—had been earmarked by the great powers as someone else's national home.

This point comes out clearly in an excellent book by the Israeli scholar Yehoshua Porath, *The Emergence of the Palestinian-Arab National Movement, 1918-1929* (Frank Cass, £7.50). Porath also shows that the British belief that Palestine before 1914 was seething with anti-Turkish feeling is not really warranted. With some exceptions, it seems that the Palestinians of that period accepted their place in the Ottoman Empire as a fact of life, whereas they expressed their hostility to

Zionist colonization sporadically from 1891 and consistently from 1908 onwards. The Palestinians, then, are not a minority. But by their dispersion since 1948 they have come to comprise several minorities, the most important being in Israel, Lebanon, Syria and the Arab states of the Gulf. Indeed they are not a minority in Palestine itself, for even if the Arabs living in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip are added to those living in Israel proper, they are heavily outnumbered by Israeli Jews. Alternatively

the population of the Bank and the Strip (the hypothetical future Palestinian state) can be treated separately, in which case they would qualify for MRG's interest as a "majority group suffering discrimination". The Palestinians in Jordan (East Bank) would hardly even do that, since discrimination there is political rather than national in character. In the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, however, there is a serious question which the Party must set right.

As Bernard Lewis has written (in *Commentary*, Jan 1975): "Basically, the difference between the two names (Palestinian and Jordanian) is ideological and programmatic rather than national or even geographical." Colin Smith's report should fulfil MRG's aim of fostering "international understanding of the factors which create prejudiced treatment and group tensions". For he gives a useful survey of individual Palestinian attitudes and experiences.

It is now Saudi Arabia. As Bernard Lewis has written (in *Commentary*, Jan 1975): "Basically, the difference between the two names (Palestinian and Jordanian) is ideological and programmatic rather than national or even geographical." Colin Smith's report should fulfil MRG's aim of fostering "international understanding of the factors which create prejudiced treatment and group tensions". For he gives a useful survey of individual Palestinian attitudes and experiences.

The general lack of enthusiasm for a small Palestinian state the price of which would be renouncing any hope of return to homes in pre-1967 Israel comes over very clearly, though perhaps Mr Smith underestimates the influence which the PLO leadership could have if it became convinced that the idea was feasible and campaigned actively for it. There is probably a lot of truth in the remark he quotes from an unnamed Beirut intellectual that the Palestinians would, in the end, do what their leaders tell them to do."

But the report does not deal in any detail with the actual treatment that Palestinians receive from the various states in which, or under which, they live. There is a short section on the West Bank and Gaza, and footnotes contributed by others on Lebanon, Syria and Israel. It appears that MRG intends to commission a separate report on Israeli Arabs, but meanwhile Fouzi El-Asmar's *To be*

an Arab in Israel (Frances Pinter, £1.95) can hardly be too strongly recommended, in spite of being abominably ill-printed and having a turgid ideological introduction by Uri Davis.

Fouzi El-Asmar is a writer who was 10 years old when the State of Israel was proclaimed. His family were allowed to stay in Lydda when the rest of the Arabs were expelled, because his father worked for the British in Israel, speaking and writing Hebrew, but evidently very much influenced by his mother who was also a writer and became active in the fight for civil rights for Arabs in Israel.

In due course he became a Marxist, yet this autobiography is remarkably free from Marxist cant. The writer comes over as a man of exceptional honesty and humanity. He is scrupulously fair in recording his many friendships with and kindnesses received from Jewish of the most varied politi-

cal views, as well as the frustrations, culminating in the loss of administrative position, which he has been attempting to promote an independent Arab culture and after the 1967 war.

Eventually in 1972 he left the United States, but he did not renounce his citizenship or proclaimed loyalty to the PLO. He does not feel the Arab nationalistic fervor which has taken root in the conflict between Jewish nationalism—which, in the view of the partition of Palestine, Jewish state and Arab state does not come from Israel, and Israelis were as free as Fouzi El-Asmar himself provide a answer too—but if that case there would have a problem.

Edward Mortimer

The Times Diary

Getting their bristles in a twist

One-third of the toothbrushes owned by Britons are said to be useless—but if yours retains its full head of bristles in good shape do not fall too quickly to self-congratulation. The British Dental Health Foundation suspects that the reason may be only that you do not use it properly, or at all.

Researchers gathered toothbrushes from a representative sample of the nation's population by giving them new brushes in return for those they were using. Experts who examined the resultant collection of frayed ends, splayed tufts and split bristles reckoned that 24 per cent of those returned from London were unusable, while every other area did noticeably worse. The thrifty Scots had worn out 39 per cent of their brushes.

The Foundation presented their findings over a late breakfast in London yesterday. They felt that the national toothbrush scandal was worth making song and dance about, so they had invited along Max Bygraves,

who duly sang about brushes and tooth loss, though he did not dance.

Speakers said that 35 per cent of the nation were past the need for toothbrushes. Nearly half Britain's semi- and unskilled workers have what was cheerily called walk-to-wall plastic or "the China clippers". Only three children in 100 are free of gingivitis ("the primary stage of gum disease which is a killer as far as teeth are concerned") and by the time they are 35 years old 95 per cent of the population are in the terminal stages of "pyorrhea".

"We spend more on our arm-pits than we do on our mouths," said a vice-chairman of the Foundation, "but we do not indulge in inter-personal relationships with our arm-pits, do we?" The average Briton replaces his toothbrush only once a year, just before going on holiday. Few brushes do much good after they are three months old.

The research for all this was

done by a firm of—guess what?—toothbrush manufacturers, and it yielded only one sop to British national pride. The French buy themselves a new brush only once every two years. Dirty beasts.

On June 19, in a paragraph headed "Names", I criticized the gossip columnists of some other newspapers for giving so much space to "the antics of the upper and public-seeking classes at Royal Ascot". I then quoted a few names from the columns in question. It was not my intention to imply that the people named were public-seeking, and I apologize to those of them who thought that was the implication.

Boon

Contrary to the impression many of you have gained, I do not travel abroad with any regularity, and what I am about to reveal is an astounding breakthrough might be old hat to hardened sky travellers. Yet I am going to reveal it all the same.

It is the final solution to the serious difficulty of keeping a glass in front of you on an aeroplane. Most planes in my experience have tables which fold in half, with a shallow round indentation. It takes up

too much useful space and is not always stable. Flying from Paris this week on an Air France DC10, I saw for the first time a different device. It is on the principle of the ring which holds glasses in some bathrooms. A simple plastic ring (but squarish, not round) folds down from the back of the table (fixed to the seat in front). The airline's squarish glasses fit into it and are held firmly at a suitable height, using no unnecessary space. It is the greatest boon to travellers since duty-free spirits.

Voluminous

The goings-on at the National Union of Mineworkers conference at Scarborough have been of particular interest: to an old man in a curiously embroidered skullcap who has been sitting discreetly at the back of the hall all week. He is Robin Page Arnot, 83 this year, who has been working on the official history of the union since 1947.

Arnot, the son of a former editor of the *Greenock Telegraph*, is best known for his lifelong association with what began as the Fabian Research Department and is now the Labour Research Department. His current massive commission has kept him out of mischief in his retirement.



Three volumes have so far been published, and Arnot is hard at work on the fourth. There is never likely to reach the best-seller lists, nor is it intended to, but two red-bound sets were disposed of this week to the Prime Minister and one to the Conservative Mayor of Scarborough, a retired surgeon, who opened the conference

with the boast that one of his forebears had been a worker. The other main guest speaker, Tony Benn, did not get a set; he has probably read it already.

Thank heaven

The Vicar of St Martin-in-the-Fields, the Reverend Prebendary Austin Williams, forsook his pulpit at lunchtime yesterday and conducted a short service on the roof. This was occasioned not by the clammy weather, nor by a desire to play to the tourists in Trafalgar Square, but to give his blessing to the construction of the £30,000 of structural restoration which has saved one of the country's best-known churches from possible collapse.

Years of London air and roaring traffic were beginning to eat away at the roof of the church is a scheduled building, (and the parish church of the Royal Family), the Department of the Environment, the Church Commissioners, and all other likely sources were unable to come up with a grant for the necessary repairs. The church therefore decided to auction at Sotheby's most of

its historic silver plate. The sale raised nearly £50,000, and the parish has been able to carry out the essential exterior renovation, together with a skilful and impressive redecoration of the inside.

Williams and his staff are hoping that the silverware they have left will appreciate in value sufficiently to allow another major restoration in 2226.

Pronouncing

High spirits in the High Court yesterday. At the end of a tax case concerning domicile, Lord Price, QC, rose to say that there was another point on which Mr Justice Brightman might give a ruling—a point of pronunciation. Then he launched into verse: Leo Price says "domicile". And rhymes it thus with window sill. But yet he seems quite reconciled To use the past tense "domiciled". It is indeed a bitter pill To hear him speak as Yankees will.

John Balcombe speaks of "domicile". And thus adopts a happier style. Neither Price nor John Balcombe, QC (the other silk engaged in the case) wrote the ditty, whose author wants to

Cover-up

The Grey Coat Hospital School for Girls in Westminster, one of our leading pioneer schools, is holding a Victorian bazaar to celebrate its centenary. Its name comes from original uniforms. The headmistress, Miss Elsie I tried to introduce some form recreation into the curriculum but found the school clothes only cumbersome but inadequate.

At an early Governors' meeting she asked for a bale of calico to make drawers for 1 girls. Baroness Burdett Court asked: "Why? Why have you not drawn? It all seems piled: 'No. But then? Ladyship does not go up in swings."

Harold Bayes of Primrose Hill has received convincing proof that the country is done in His letter to the *Chichester Accountant* at the Bank of England has been returned to the Post Office marked "Gone away."



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DIFFICULT PEOPLE TO TRY

Good principles are best defended on behalf of bad causes, because that is when they are most severely tested. The members of the Baader-Meinhof group in West Germany, who are accused of a catalogue of violent acts, are a very bad cause indeed, but they would have a fair trial, both for their own sake and in order to demonstrate the probity and reliability of the system they wish to destroy. A fair trial has now become very difficult to achieve. In the absence of laws on contempt of court the accused have already been found guilty by most of the media. Public opinion is running high and politicians have been tempted to tie with each other in providing their commitment to law and order. Some opposition politicians clearly wish to exploit the issue in next year's federal elections.

lawyer has not been allowed even ten days to read himself into a case which has been in preparation for three years and in which the prosecution dossier runs to about 50,000 pages. Criticism has also been directed against new draft laws, one of which would make it impossible in some cases for a defendant to speak to his lawyer in private. Some of the criticism can be disposed of fairly easily. There is nothing wrong in principle with arresting lawyers suspected of breaking the law, even if they happen to be in the middle of a case. In this case it is only fair to suspend judgment until the authorities have shown the strength of their evidence. Nor is there anything wrong in principle with passing new laws to meet a new situation. For West Germany this is a new situation. The accused have publicly proclaimed their desire to destroy the democratic order, by violence if necessary, and three out of the four are already serving sentences for other offences. Their lawyers have shown an unusual degree of association with the political ideas of their clients and have, as published documents show, been very active in circulating information in and outside the prisons, not all of which was directly related to the preparation of their legal defence.

This has aroused suspicion that privileged contacts between lawyer and client may have been misused for purposes connected with the political aims of the accused, a situation for which the law was not full prepared. The facts remain to be clarified. There are, however, grounds for questioning the wording of the new law itself, which makes "strong suspicion" sufficient grounds for excluding a lawyer from taking part in a trial, and there are stronger grounds for questioning the court's refusal to give Herr Baader's new defence lawyer, Herr Heldmann, time to prepare himself properly. There is bound, too, to be a debate over the new draft law restricting a defendant's right to private talks with his lawyer, even if the reasons for such a law can be understood. West Germans are now fully aware that their own legal system is, in a sense, on trial. They have had a trial of this sort, in which, although the charges are criminal, the implications are also political. With passions so intense and circumstances so unusual it is not easy for lawyers and legislators to maintain a cool concern for legal rectitude. This is, however, the only way of getting through the ordeal unscathed.

Coalescence of the middle majority

From Mr Nigel Lawson, Conservative MP for Blaby
Sir, I cannot imagine anything worse for British politics in general, and for the great "middle majority" in particular than the realignment you advocate in your long leading article yesterday (July 8).
If there is any hope for the political and economic stability which alone will allow parliamentary democracy to succeed in this country it must surely be that the views of the "middle majority"—notably, genuine belief in the mixed economy—should provide the basic framework within which the political debate is conducted, and with which, too, the two great parties argue out their very real differences and provide the electoral with a genuine yet non-revolutionary choice.
Your suggestion that all those who accept the broad tenors of the "middle majority" should band together in a single party, leaving the role of opposition and alternative government to the Marxists and other left-wing socialists must be contrasted—on anything other than the very short run—with the perfect recipe for the worst kind of political instability and divided society.
Yours etc,
NIGEL LAWSON,
House of Commons,
July 1.

joined the Liberal Party as the most radical of the three and the most idealistic of the three. This is nothing to do with moderation.
In my home constituency, the Liberal Party has long been to the left of the rather boring Labour Party. In the North East of England, the Liberals are a radical alternative to the conservatism of Labour. In the centres of many big cities, the Liberals have taken over on-time Labour strongholds by their radical policies.
Last year, the strength of feeling against coalition was immense. It was only because a specific clause said, effectively, no coalition under any circumstances, that its defeat could be misinterpreted as to indicate any support for coalition.
It appears to me that The Times is suffering from a nasty attack of Londonism. The further one gets from London, particularly when one reaches and passes the Severn-Wash line, the more one finds a predominance of that sort of radical Liberal who would naturally find him or herself in opposition to the centre party government which The Times advocates.
Yours sincerely,
MARTYN SMITH, Treasurer,
West Midlands Liberal Party,
2 North Street,
Newcastle, Staffordshire,
July 8.

Squatters and the law

From Miss Elisabeth Harper
Sir, I have just had the appalling experience of turning squatters out of our home in Kensington, left locked and secure three weeks earlier. The squatters arrogantly assumed the right to break in, to live in our home with their dogs, to sleep in our beds, to turn our sheets, to draw crude drawings in black on our walls, to use our food, light, heat and telephone, to steal £300 worth of antique furniture and above all, to dispose of all our treasured possessions (photographs, letters from my husband before marriage, mementoes of the children when young, all our clothes, children's toys, books, pictures, everything).
These people are not pathetically homeless. They are well-organized, well-off layabouts, many of them visiting foreigners whom this country can have no conceivable duty to house, who have found an effective method of living a subsidized life. It is monstrous that otherwise well-informed people should think quite wrongly, that there is any way of turning them out legally and immediately.
There is: Lord Denning, in his judgment in the case of *McPhail and Persons Unknown* 1973 3 Weekly Law Reports, said "I would say this as an obvious principle. The owner is not obliged to go to the courts to obtain possession. He can go in himself and turn them out without the aid of the Courts of Law. This is not a course to be recommended because of the disturbance which may be caused by the legality of it is beyond question. Even though the owner himself should use force then so long as he uses no more force than is reasonably necessary, he is not himself liable either criminally or civilly."
Until three weeks ago, I read newspaper articles about private armies with the amazement that moderates living under the Rule of Law reserve for extreme views. It is now clear that in the case of squatters the Rule of Law is suspended. The police told us that they could not turn the squatters out. I had to retain security officers who could and did. When the squatters ejected from our house simply flooded into the house opposite, the police not only told the owner of that house that she could not eject them without a court order, but they first improperly obstructed her private army of security men from, quite lawfully, doing so. As a result, she regained possession of only half of her house on the first day on which she tried, spent a night of terror (she is aged

72) in the top part with the squatters, and had to pay for the security men to return the next day to eject the squatters from the bottom of the house, which they had meanwhile maliciously wrecked overnight.
It is a nightmare experience to know that the law is clear, that the police on instructions will not enforce it and that, by their actions, they actually assist the wrongdoer. I consider that there are two reasons for this: The problem of homelessness, undoubtedly exacerbated by the 1974 Rent Act, has led to public sympathy for the genuinely homeless and political pressure on the police not to "lean" too heavily on squatters.
Secondly, the directive to the police from the legal department of Scotland Yard quotes the passage from the case of *McPhail* saying that the right of self-help "is not to be recommended because of the disturbance that might follow", but stops significantly before the next sentence "But the legality of it is beyond question". The overall impression, as stated to me by five different members of the police, is that it is illegal to eject squatters without a Court Order. In addition, the police make a distinction between owner-occupied houses and those empty or for sale, which does not exist in law.
People who break into other people's houses and dispose of their property commit burglary and theft. These disorderly bands are increasing and if the police force continues to turn a blind eye to such serious criminal offences many of our readers may return from holiday this summer to find what we did. It is time that the police stopped pretending that they cannot prosecute because they "can find no visible means of entry" (it was plain to see in our case) and because of the supposed difficulty in proving which squatter did what. Quite apart from the stolen property, the whole household used our gas fired hot water (burglary) our electric light, cooker, fridge and telephone (all of which constitute theft under S.13 of the Theft Act).
There is a prima facie case against all those trespassers whose clothes and personal possessions demonstrate that they live in the house. Why does the police force not enforce the law?
Yours faithfully,
ELISABETH HARPER,
The Rift Barns,
Wylam,
Northumberland,
July 3.

A CAUTIOUS CONFERENCE OF DOCTORS

After a year full of disputation the British Medical Association's annual representative meeting in Leeds finds the profession unbridled but less inclined than it was to bravado. Doctors have been licking their wounds, counting their blessings and vowing themselves for hardships to come (hardships indicated at the outset by Mrs. Aspley's outline of the scale of the sacrifice that Mr. Healey has in mind for the health service). The overshadowing crisis evoked more cautious spirit than a year ago.
No doubt the mood was also influenced by the long-awaited but handsome pay award of last April, and by the sobering sense of having had a narrow escape in coming away unscathed from the consultants' ill-judged sanctions earlier this year, which might well have opened grave divisions in the profession and between doctors and the public. The most combative motions at Leeds were received with reserve: moves to give the BMA a greater resemblance to an ordinary trade union and to

press for a closed shop were deflected, and a proposal to undertake fresh sanctions if the Government pressed on with the abolition of pay beds was left in the air.
On the other hand the meeting did endorse a motion calling for sanctions if agreement could not be reached over the contracts of junior hospital staff. The Government show signs of trying to retreat from promises about overtime that it made last year. It is significant, however, that the separate Junior Hospital Doctors Association, which is anything but submissive to officialdom, immediately questioned the decision. Many younger doctors feel doubts about the wisdom of endangering the welfare of patients over a wage claim, and have developed misgivings about the whole basis of the proposed contract, which sets out to increase rewards by treating hours as overtime.
Naturally, more immediate questions have attracted the

greatest interest this week. Though it may have become more cautious, the profession is as suspicious as ever of the declared and undeclared intentions of the Government towards private practice. Small wonder, considering how the matter has been handled. Leaders of the BMA consider that they have made a small gain in this regard by persuading the Government to reconsider the possibility of an independent inquiry into the finances of the health service. The BMA have been pressing for such an inquiry for some time, in the expectation that it would show that some extension of the principle of charges could ease the chronic poverty of the service. It might do so, although any inquiry of that kind must wrestle with so many variable factors and indefinable objectives that its conclusions would be unlikely to weigh heavily against the political propensities of whatever Government happened to be in power at the time.

From Mr S. C. Crown
Sir, For some weeks now culminating in your leading article of July 8, you have been advocating a realignment of the party system of this country.
The advent of the "Social Democratic" party, the more frequent reference to the left-wing Tribune group and the right wing of the Conservative Party gives strength to that argument.
What has not emerged is a group of people representing that middle view and strong enough in terms of their current position and status within politics and the community at large to form and lead that middle majority. In fact it is understood that many of the people who support the Social Democrats will not publicly give their name to the movement.
Surely the time is now right for the group of people who will inevitably eventually form such an alliance to have the courage of their convictions and take action on the views they are so often heard to express and so infrequently put into action.
It is in this way in which the extreme left and right wings of the two major parties will be forced to break away and form their own parties. At the moment these extreme groups know that they have more power within the two parties than if they break away, for it is they that the other majority elements of their parties try to appease.
It is only when this middle majority leadership forms itself that the country will be able to turn away from the continual U-turns in statements and policies we have had from the past 10 years and only then when the vast majority of this country who are surely moderate and want to see the country, and therefore themselves, prosper will be properly led on a firm base.
Yours faithfully,
S. M. CROWN,
38 Darwin Court,
Gloucester Avenue, NW1,
July 9.

From Mr Sidney Hornblow
Sir, Your leader on the middle majority will surely awaken an echo of complete agreement among those of us who count ourselves members of that so far silent and largely unrepresented multitude.
How urgently we need a government, the fullness of whose authority is established on the will of the majority of the people—a government with a survival plan. This should, I suggest, be a three-stage plan.
Stage 1: Stop the Rot. The higher the fever the more drastic must be the medicine. When will our leaders realize that we are willing to suffer hardship if we can see it is for our own good? Pericles, that wise man, knew the dangers of just such a situation as we face today—"a man may be ever so well off, and yet if his country be ruined he must be ruined with it."
If members of our government have not the courage to face a regime of austerity they might unhappily be tempted to hide behind the verdict of another referendum. If they were to do so, they might well be surprised at the size of the majority of our people who would vote unhesitatingly in favour of, and agree voluntarily to abide by, a complete freeze for two years on all wages, prices, and dividends. The cost of such a policy would be 10 per cent or 15 per cent not going to provide the cure for our ills.
Stage 2: Plan the Recovery. The very introduction of such a strong act of self-correction would send the economy reeling, help our balance of payments, and bring about a return of confidence which in its turn would lead to that vital reinjection of investment to modernize and strengthen our manufacturing enterprises.
Then the climate would begin to look fair enough for us to think ahead instead of back. Mr Wilson is often talking of "the consensus", let him—or some new leader—appoint a commission of the 10 best brains in the country most suitably equipped for such a task and bid them chart within six months "The Way Ahead".
At for all the gasps that would arise, I nevertheless would include Prince Charles among those 10 wise men to speak for youth. I think we would be surprised at the wisdom and inspiration—the breath of much needed fresh air—he would bring to such a task.
Stage 3: New Social Charter. Should we not be ready then for a calm, fair and socially equitable scheme to help those who really need help? Have we not all learnt enough from the inequalities and the abuses of half a century of "social security" to devise a system which helps people to help themselves, which encourages those precious qualities of self-reliance, which spends our hard-earned money on retaining men and women to give them a pride in acquiring some new skill instead of insulting and degrading them by easy money hand-outs which ask nothing in return but a vote at the next election?
Will someone, please, define a new goal for a new national effort? There is so much to be done, we only await the word to go.
Is there a Man of Vision in the House?
Yours faithfully,
SIDNEY HORNBLow,
White Fox Lodge,
Udimore,
Rye, Sussex,
July 9.

From Mr W. H. Turn
Sir, Are the pensioners also to have an increase of £6 a week?
Yours faithfully,
W. H. TURN,
Lancet Cottage,
High Casterton,
Kirkby Lonsdale.

From Mr W. E. Wright
Sir, If we can rely upon the forecasts about the massive production of oil in a few years time, the country will then be enjoying economic prosperity. Could not the Chancellor therefore make use of a wartime device by the issue of post-inflation credits, which could cover agreed excess amounts over the 10 per cent cash limit he is imposing? This would not weaken his position, would be reasonable and might help to get his essential anti-inflation plans accepted.
Yours sincerely,
W. E. WRIGHT,
9 Nightingale Road,
Rickmansworth,
Hertfordshire.

WHITE MEN IN BLACK AFRICA

The rescue of Mr Denis Hills underlines some peculiarities of the situation of white men in Black Africa. In the rest of the ex-colonial world the white communities have melted into the normal cosmopolitan component of any modern state. Trouble arises only when the whites become involved in some directly political undertaking which faces local opposition, like the Americans in Indo-China. In African nationalism seems to be more sensitive, even at times xenophobic; expulsion, or easing out, has been on the whole the order of the day. Asked by a group of white farmers what their future was in an independent Tanganyika, President Iyerere frankly told them that they had none. He has got rid of nearly all. President Kaunda has been more liberal, but both in the farming areas and on the upper belt the final objective is total blackness. In West Africa nationalists used to plan to put the mosquito on their flags, in he grateful belief that the malaria vector had saved them from white settlement.
The problem of African nationalism—of identity to use the contemporary jargon—is greater than those of Asia or of Latin America. The Asians had their ancient traditions and former statehoods to revive and adapt. With the best aid the anthropologists can give them, his is harder for Africans, having left colonial tutelage,

they have a new world to make from grassroots. But they have to make it with the institutions of the colonial period left them, and even if this were not so (as in Liberia or Ethiopia) their new states have to live in the developed world which is a white-made world, Western or Eastern.
Yet a model African state is surrounded with a tribal non-literate past at the same time that the presence of white farmers, technicians or businessmen perpetually suggests that the only road forward is a foreign one. The ensuing frustration produced the blanket term "neocolonialism" but unless the developed world disappears, mental neo-colonialism seems inescapable. The white man is the symbol of this frustration.
For those who think Africa should return to its cultural roots, President Amin may seem an embarrassing exemplar. In attitudes he seems at times contemporary with the absolute princes with whom Speke, Baker and McKay, the great missionary, dealt in these regions. But Amin's army is equipped with Russian tanks and Uganda's prosperity is tied to Western markets. The new African Caesars, who have destroyed so many of the half-baked parliamentary regimes the colonialists left behind, are totally different from the ancient Kings. Dependent on the

developed world, on international intercourse and institutions, they daily face the appraising eyes of the white man.
To draw level with Asian power in their homelands, some Africans felt that they had to expel the Asians. They have taken over much less successfully from the European. For as the traders, artisans and farmers leave, the omniscient experts fly in. The Asians, though culturally exclusive, did not judge; the white man does. Worse still, he writes his impressions. The Ethiopian Dergue prohibits Western journalists but the flow of Western criticism, disparaging or condescending, somehow invades the African air and often upsets African leaders far more sophisticated than General Amin.
Colonialism has passed, yet the white man remains irritatingly strong. When Amin talked as if the entire British community in Uganda were his hostages, he upset leaders like Nyerere, Seretse Khama and Kaunda, because they could see what a political gift it was making to the white regimes in the south. The white communities in Africa bolster up local economies, teach, train and serve, but until and unless they become culturally invisible they will, in East and Central Africa at least, remain abrasive, however individually popular. They can only keep their heads down, their mouths and typewriters shut, and hope.

From Mr P. Levy-Ménard
Sir, You describe the potential coalition of the centre as "the democratic wing of the Labour Party, the whole of the Liberal Party, and the Peelites of the Conservative Party". By describing the right wing of the Labour Party in this way, you make a damaging implication about the party's left wing, an implication which you clearly do not believe applies to the Conservative right wing.
You are entitled to hold the (mistaken) view that the Labour left's policies will lead, despite the best intentions, to the destruction of democracy. But you have no right to suggest that, for example, Mr. Francis Pym, Mr. Stan Orme are less committed to democracy than Richard Body or Sir Keith Joseph (or less committed to it than, say, Roy Jenkins and Peter Walker). Perhaps you believe that the Editor of *Tribune* is less committed to democracy than the Editor of *Evening News*, *Evening Standard* or *Evening Post*.
No, you had an ulterior motive, and you know it. You want to give the political economy espoused by the Labour left a bad name, and thereby hang it, and what better way than to say that it is undemocratic and anti-democratic.
Yours truly,
P. LEVY-MÉNARD,
23 Fitzwarren Gardens, N19,
July 8.

From Mr Martin Smith
Sir, There is at least one major flaw in your analysis of the present political situation, and that is the contention that the Liberal Party is monolithically moderate.
Many Liberal Party activists, including myself, would have nothing to do with electing a so-called moderate government. We level at the demonstration by worried print workers that they were a violent, drunken mob. This is again typical of the attitude of his company as many of the pickets left before any public house opened its doors and to date no one has been convicted in any court for any acts connected with the demonstration.
If, as he suggests, privately raised support is going to be used by employers to allow scab labour to undermine the conditions and security of workers then he will have to contend with the whole trade union movement for his irresponsible attitude.
I am, yours faithfully,
CHRIS WRIGHT,
London Vice-President, Society of Lithographic Artists, Designers, Engravers and Process Workers,
76b Croham Road,
South Croydon,
Surrey.

From Mr Clare Wells
Sir, While agreeing to all your reasons for a centre government, should Mr Wilson and Mrs Thatcher be non-starters for the leadership of such a government, to whom do we look?
Yours faithfully,
CLARE WELLS,
43 Hailbury Road,
Orpington Kent,
July 9.

From Mr Josselyn Hennessy
Sir, The late A. L. Irvine, for many years fifth-form master at Charterhouse, would have approved of Bernard Lewis's roundup on the bumblebees (*The Times*, July 9). Entering the fifth form one day, he saw a boy chasing a bumblebee with an atlas. "Jones," he said coldly, "please remember this is the fifth form—not Remove B." Yours faithfully,
JOSSLYN HENNESSY,
35 Linden Gardens, W2.

The American Revolution

From Father John White
Sir, I should like to be allowed, through your page, to appeal to very Britain who has a respect (and will say a love) for the person of our dear Sovereign Lady, and to regard for the dignity of her Crown, to protest by whatever lawful means here be the proposal and plan, reported in the American press, that he makes a visit to the United States "in honour of" their forthright and contented King.
Surely, it must be some strange form of national masochism that could demand such humiliation of her Majesty's person and of her reign and ancient office.
Boogymen who for all his faults are not devoid of wisdom and perspicacity, is alleged to have said that "history is a conspiracy against the truth". Certainly, the full truth of the American rebellion is not iterated on this (western) side of the ocean; nor as Belloc pointed out is adequately presented even at home.
The rebels' case is presented and wallowed whole; the very defensible British case is not even acknowledged to exist. Suffice it ere to say that to any reasonable and disinterested mind that rebellion is unjustified (and unjustifiable)

at the time. Its development since, and its impact on the world, have only enlarged the question of its historic desirability.
The treatment accorded in recent days to HRH The Princess Anne by the American press and television is fair augury of what may be expected to be meted out to the Queen, should this proposed visit come to pass. Rudeness, intrusion, bold impertinence, ridicule, condescension, sneering: that will be her portion. Nor let anyone discount the real physical danger there are more madmen reading *The Irish Echo* in Brooklyn than in all of Ulster.
We are asked in these days to pity the refugees who have fled Vietnam. Let us remember, and not dishonour, those United Empire Loyalists who at the cost of all earthly possessions fled the rebel polity, to begin life anew as pioneers of the great Canadian nation. Their sacrifice should not now be mocked, their memory must not be desecrated. Else, let their poignant monument at Hamilton, Ontario, be draped in black, and Dirge chanted before it!
Again, therefore, I appeal (by your indulgence) to every reader who has concern for the Queen's well-being and for the honour of her Crown, to bring pressure of

public opinion on Government and Foreign Office, that neither Sovereign in her person nor Crown in its office be subjected to the indignity of having to join in celebrating the success of treason.
JOHN J. WHITE,
RC Parish Priest,
Box 37,
Verona,
Missouri.

Doctors' obligations
From Dr C. F. J. Baron
Sir, Dr Leahy Taylor of the Medical Protection Society writes (July 2) that negligence is not an issue in coroners' courts. Dr Taylor must know that, while his letter is correct with regard to civil negligence (a) it is not correct with regard to criminal negligence, and (b) the facts upon which negligence of any degree can or cannot be based are very much an issue in coroners' courts.
Yours faithfully,
C. F. J. BARON, lately RM Coroner for Greater London,
The Spinney,
More Lane,
Essex, Surrey,
July 2.

Picketing a newspaper
From Mr Chris Wright
Sir, Mr Sharman in his letter of July 8 typifies the feudal attitude of the management of his company and many employers in the printing industry. Following years of lack of investment in the industry the employers suddenly go and buy new machinery that is an added threat to our already unsafe job security, expecting us to use it on their terms without any assurance of no redundancy.
He quickly passes over the point of the national importance of his new system, claiming that it is essentially a domestic matter. To our detriment we know that to allow one new system to be used without the safeguards in any future situations we will have Sharman's thrown in our faces.
In the latter part of his letter he falls to the level of trying to

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St Paul's School site

From Dame Margot Fonteyn de Arian
Sir, I am writing in support of the West Kensington Environment Campaign (748 1822) against the GLC's intended development of the old St Paul's School Playing Field site in Hammersmith.
Fourteen and a half acres of soft open space are scheduled for comprehensive redevelopment for a multi-million pound education complex and expensive new housing in an area already deficient in public open space by 74 acres.
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July 2.

Picketing a newspaper

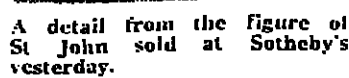
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By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

A boxwood rosary bead of about 1500, hinged so that it opens to reveal intricately carved scenes from the life of St Jerome inside each half of the bead, made



Bulhenia at Crecy (1346) made £6,000 (estimate £3,000 to £6,000). It was made by Rundell Bridge and Co for the first Duke of Cambridge, son of George III. It was

Christie's held a successful car sale at Beaulieu, with a top price of £17,500 (estimate £11,000 to £13,000) for a 1931 Alfa Romeo two-seater.

In Dr. M. W. Haslam: Kenyon Medal for Classical Studies in Sir Ronald Syme; Rose Mary Crawshaw Prize for English Literature in Miss Doris Langley Moore; Serena Medal for Italian Studies in Professor Eugenio Garin; Sir Israel Gollancz Prize for Early English Studies in Miss Eusebius Woolf.

Dinas Powls	£152,598
Smith, Mr High Stowell, of Row	
ington, Warwickshire	£110,588
Wagner, Dorothy Lilian, of	
Birmingham	£101,311

Equity and trusts
 Cases 1: No award.
 Cases 2: No award.
 Cases 3: In numerical order:
 1. O. Anah, 2. D. A. Holden, 3.
 4. J. Houston, 5. G. J. D. Alderson,
 6. M. R. Darke, 7. J. O. A. Gchel.

Students admitted since April 1, 1969.

Glass just isn't glass any more.



1. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 277, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674,

The following persons have passed:
Class I No Award.
Class II (in order of merit)
Grace E. Beckler, Jr. 1st D. Conn.
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MacArthur. M. C. R. Eulas. 1st
R. W. A. Swanson, L. Laura G. Brink

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Steel corporation losses double to £4m a week with steep drop in demand

By Peter Hill
Industrial Correspondent

The British Steel Corporation is losing money at the rate of £4m a week, and there is every sign that the loss figure will continue to rise.

Mr Bob Scholey, the BSC's chief executive yesterday affirmed his estimates earlier this year, when he said that a total swing of £375m would be needed to keep the corporation profitable this year. There is only a slim chance of this being achieved against the background of one of the sharpest and most serious recessions experienced by the industry for years.

Recently the corporation's weekly losses were put at around £2m. The fact that they have doubled so rapidly and will almost certainly worsen is causing grave concern to corporation executives.

Later this month the corporation is expected to unveil a profit for last year of just over £50m—the best since nationalisation—enabling it to make a further repayment to the Government on its public dividend capital.

In the latest issue of its house newspaper, *Steel News*, the corporation set out the measures it is implementing in an attempt to maintain the £100m worth of savings should flow from the six-point plan on employment agreed with the trade unions in May; but a huge potential deficit would still remain, even if all these hoped for savings were realized.

The corporation, which is now faced with a new threat of strike action by the blastfurnacemen over a wage claim hopes to save a further £90m on its raw materials purchases.

By an agreement with the Coal Board, the BSC will pay for coking coal supplies only when they are used instead of on delivery. It will also be paying less for scrap.

A thorough cost reduction exercise is taking place at all levels of the corporation's operations which includes cost savings built into this year's annual operating plan and which, it is hoped, will yield further savings of £200m.

The BSC is also reviewing other aspects of its activities to establish what further savings can be made. Budgets are being pruned severely.

The corporation has ruled out further price increases because of the disastrous state of the market with international price cutting the rule and with large numbers of steelmakers chasing too few orders.

Although the Government is committed to ensuring that the nationalized industries operate on a commercial basis, the Treasury and the Department of Industry may have to look at another loan to the BSC's finances before too long. In the article, however, the BSC made it clear that there would be no government hand-out.

For some months past the corporation has been in discussion with officials of the Treasury and Industry Department over a plan for it to obtain access to cheap funds. These would enable it to finance the build-up of a stock-pile of semi-finished steel which would also ensure higher plant operating levels. A decision on this matter is expected shortly.

But the serious nature of the drop in demand was underlined further yesterday by publication of production figures for last month for the state-owned and private sectors of the industry.

Production in June amounted to a weekly average of 343,500 tonnes—28.5 per cent less than in the same month last year.

Over the first six months of this year weekly average production at 427,600 tonnes was 1.7 per cent less than in the corresponding period of 1974, when production was restricted by the effects of the three-day week.

Although the half-year figure would imply an annual production total of around 22 million tonnes, with no evidence of any resurgence in demand, production in the second half of the year is expected to flag further and total output may amount to only 19 million tonnes.

Production last month was in fact 2.1 per cent greater than in May, but the weekly average production in May of 336,300 tonnes was artificially low because of the spring bank holiday plant closures.

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US grain trader tells of talks with Russians

From Our US
Economics Correspondent

Washington, July 10

A leading United States grain trading company has informed the Department of Agriculture that it is in negotiations with the Soviet Union for the sale of about 5 million tons of American grain, informed sources said today.

At the same time, sources at the Senate's subcommittee on investigations stated that they had confirmation that the Russians were about to conclude a purchasing contract for about 2.5 million tons of grain in Canada.

Also, Senator Henry Jackson announced that he had received confirmation from United States exporters that the Russians were negotiating for "the acquisition of several million tons of grain, some of all of which could come from this year's American harvest."

The Russians have in the past used several United States companies in making grain purchases. With one company having reported negotiations involving five million tons, the Soviet Union is probably seeking a far larger volume in North America.

However, Agriculture Department experts are so confident of a record harvest that they appear quite willing to give approval to vast export sales to Russia.

Mr Earl Butz, Secretary for Agriculture, remarked: "We want to sell abroad as much as we possibly can because there will be a build-up of stocks."

Some unofficial government estimates suggest that the United States harvest could yield some 65 to 67 million tons of grains, leaving possibly as much as 50 million tons available for export.

But huge export sales to the Soviet Union would undoubtedly drive up prices, as did the Russian purchases in 1972.

Many congressmen already appear to be making efforts to ensure that the volume of exports to Russia is strictly controlled.

Senator Jackson, who appears to be leading this effort, underlined the difficult policy problem by stating: "We don't want large foreign acquisitions of American grain to disrupt our food economy this year. A repeat of the economic impact of the 1972 Soviet grain deal would be catastrophic, given the present economic conditions in the United States."

At the same time, we don't want our farmers to suffer from any arbitrary ban or limit on grain sales to the Soviet Union.

Meanwhile, the Senate's subcommittee on investigations has requested information concerning negotiations with the Russians from the country's largest grain dealers—Bunge Corporation, Cargill Inc, Garbain Grain Co, Cook Industries, Continental Grain and Louis-Dreyfus Corporation.

It is one of these companies that is said to be negotiating for a 5 million ton sale to the Russians.

Retailers say jobs may be in danger

By David Young

The Retail Consortium, which last night was given details of what is likely to appear in Mr Rowland's White Paper on inflation, has given a warning that 200,000 jobs in the retailing industry will be in jeopardy if the TUC proposed £6 a week wage limit becomes effective government policy.

It appreciates that if it is an upper limit for negotiation, but it also aware that in practice this sum will become a norm for all wage settlements.

In a statement yesterday the Consortium said that a £6 a week increase represents an increase of up to 24 per cent of the present retail wage rates. The industry has already increased its average wage rates by 25 per cent this year, and 20 per cent last year.

The Consortium has told the Government that based on last year's figures, the TUC's £6 proposals will reduce retailers' net profits by 75 per cent.

Since rates, electricity and other services, as well as many other costs have all risen sharply this year, net margins later in the year could be down to practically nil, particularly in the food trade where profit margins are already as low as 3p in the £.

"The proposed TUC increase will, therefore, put in jeopardy the ability of retailers to retain all of their existing staff, thus up to 200,000 jobs out of a total labour force of only two million are at risk," the consortium adds.

In the industry the basic wage rate is £28 a week, but most groups pay considerably more with average earnings in Sainsbury's, at £42.74, being similar to those paid by other groups.

The Consortium has asked the Government to limit wages in the retail sector to 15 per cent, but admits that it does not expect any such restriction. Industry being singled out for such treatment.

The consortium has been concerned that retailers have been blamed for the large rises in the index, when in fact retail prices account for only 50 per cent of the costs which make up the index.

Cut in disposable income points to decline in living standards

By Melvyn Westlake

There was a fall in general living standards in Britain during the first three months of this year. In an effort to maintain the level of their consumption, private individuals have been forced to run down their savings.

This unwelcome trend was revealed yesterday—on the eve of the publication of the Government's pay policy—in figures released by the Central Statistical Office.

These show clearly that incomes are no longer rising as fast as prices. The emergence of this trend could have an important influence on the attitudes of trade union leaders towards the Government's pay restraint strategy. It seems

almost certain that living standards have continued to fall in more recent months.

Moreover, on Mr Healey's own admission in the Commons last week, the 10 per cent pay ceiling expected to be imposed by today's White Paper will cause living standards for some on the average wage to fall by 21p in the pound. The fall for people on higher salaries would be still greater, he said.

Yesterday's figures show that real personal disposable income—which is popularly used as a measure of living standards, but excludes some government services and benefits—was 1 to 1½ per cent down in the first quarter of 1975, compared with the previous three months. Savings as a percentage of such

income fell to 12.6 from an historically high level of 13.3.

Before any allowance is made for higher tax payments and increased prices the rise in total personal incomes (that is wages, salaries, rents and benefits) increased by 4½ to 5 per cent.

Wages and salaries, which are the main component rose by 7 to 7½ per cent. But income taxes and national insurance contributions rose faster than pre-tax incomes, increasing by 8 to 8½ per cent.

Incomes, after allowance for such deductions, failed to rise in step with prices.

At the same time the government figures confirm that Britain's gross domestic product, which is the sum of the

GDP

	Gross Domestic Product at constant factor cost (1970=100) and seasonally adjusted:	Based on expenditure data	Based on income data	Based on output data	Average
1972	104.3	103.7	104.6	104.2	
1973	108.9	109.2	108.8	109.7	
1974	110.6	109.2	109.9	109.6	
1975 Q1	102.6	99.2	101.4	101.1	
Q2	104.1	102.4	105.6	104.4	
Q3	104.0	102.4	105.4	103.9	
Q4	106.3	106.9	107.0	107.4	
1975 Q1	111.6	108.9	110.0	110.2	
Q2	108.7	109.2	108.2	108.1	
Q3	109.9	109.6	110.4	109.7	
Q4	108.2	108.9	110.0	108.7	
1974 Q1	106.9	103.8	106.8	105.8	
Q2	110.4	109.5	108.5	109.8	
Q3	112.8	111.6	110.5	111.7	
Q4	112.3	112.0	108.8	111.0	
1975 Q1	113.7	109.2	108.7	110.5	

Barely 43pc of BOC's rights issue taken up

By Our Financial Staff

BOC International, formerly British Oxygen, received a poor response from shareholders for its £22.8m one-for-four rights issue. Of the 51.5 million shares on offer at 46p, only 22.1 million were taken up, equivalent to 42.9 per cent. The balance of 57.1 per cent has been left to the underwriters.

It had been widely expected that a large proportion of the issue might be left because of the sharp fall in BOC's share price since the issue was announced in mid-June. At that time the shares stood at 57p, but they have since fallen back to stand at around the rights issue price. Last night they closed unchanged at 46p.

The issue was underwritten by Lazard Bros, with W. Greenwell as broker.

Financial Editor, page 21

Lonrho bids for 70pc remainder of LAGs

By Adrienne Gleeson

Lonrho made a further move to expand its African interests yesterday with the announcement of a bid for the outstanding equity of London, Australian & General Exploration, which besides various industrial interests has a stake in South African gold mining through its holding in Jukler Exploration.

Lonrho, whose soaring fortunes have been dominated by Mr Roland (Tiny) Rowland, the chief executive, acquired its existing 29.5 per cent stake in LAGs from the troubled Jessel empire in January.

The present offer, of one Lonrho ordinary share for every three of LAGs, valued the latter at 44p on announcement of the bid; but with Lonrho's shares down 8p to 25p on the day, at the close the offer was worth 41p.

There is a 25p per share cash alternative. The directors of LAGs, headed since May by Mr Edward du Cann, have unanimously recommended the share offer.

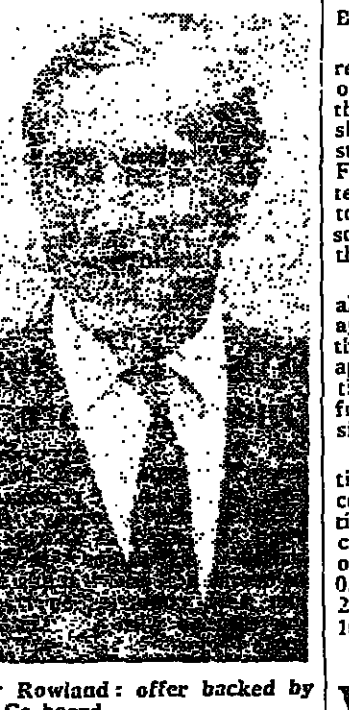
Lonrho's board reckons to have made the initial purchase of LAGs shares at an advance price, but to have been unwilling, in view of the problems then being experienced by some subsidiaries of the latter company, to commit itself to a full offer ahead of some investigation.

Now that this has been undertaken, the directors consider operations offer good potential for growth—in particular the United Kingdom engineering interests and the South African record and videotape manufacturing subsidiary.

The bulk of LAGs' assets are in South Africa; but 70 per cent of its shares, which closed 8p higher at 39p last night, are held in the United Kingdom.

Lonrho's shares have acquired an additional following over the past few months on the revelation that Kuwaiti interests had acquired large holdings. On the exercise of their options, Arabian investors would control around 26 per cent of the company.

Financial Editor, page 21



Mr Rowland: offer backed by LAGs board.

Sharp fall by franc as it rejoins 'snake'

By Our Economics Staff

On the day that it formally reentered the European block of jointly floating currencies, the French franc yesterday fell sharply against a rapidly strengthening dollar.

The French central bank was reported to have sold up to \$150m to support its currency, but some London dealers discounted these reports.

Other European currencies also dropped very sharply against the dollar, and although the French franc initially appeared to be suffering more than most it later recovered from its worst level of the session.

In the meantime, sterling continued its recent marked recovery. Its "floating devaluation" against 10 other key currencies, from the base date of December, 1971, improved by 0.2 percentage point to close at 27.1 per cent—its best level for 10 working days. Against the

dollar, however, the pound slipped 55 points to \$2.200.

The dollar's strength was evident in all the major financial centres in Europe. In Frankfurt it was "fixed" at its best level for six months. Its renewed strength stemmed from the rumours of a large Russian grain purchase, together with expectations of a fresh increase in some American prime rates.

Currency dealers commented that the French franc had rejoined the European "snake" at a difficult time. Many believed it had rejoined at too high an exchange rate and would come under pressure in coming months.

After it was forced by speculation to leave the "snake" 18 months ago, the French franc was devalued by up to 8 per cent. But it has subsequently fully recovered this amount. Yesterday the franc fell, at one stage to its lowest level against the dollar for 10 weeks.

Stay-out vote by car parts strikers on eve of holiday

By R. W. Shakespeare

British Leyland components workers, whose month-old strike has cost them £18.5m worth of lost car production and made 11,000 other workers idle, are to continue their unofficial stoppage. They will not meet again until July 31, four days after their contract at Hemel Hempstead is due to reopen after the summer holidays, which begin tonight.

The decision, taken at a mass meeting yesterday, means that some of British Leyland's big car plants will also be closing down for the holidays at the end of next week, with thousands of workers still laid off and not knowing if they will be able to return to work when their holiday ends.

This news from British Leyland, which also has a shutdown at its Alvis military vehicles factory in Coventry with 2,000 workers idle because of a separate pay dispute, came on a day that also brought a surprising pay settlement covering about 8,000 white collar workers in the Corporation's car divisions, who have accepted increases of £6 a week.

Mr Ray Edwards, assistant general secretary of Apex—the clerical workers' union—said: "In cost of living terms our members could have justified a much larger increase. However, the Government has taken action to save jobs in British Leyland. Now Leyland staff have kept their part of the bargain and have accepted pay increases that will help the Government to tackle inflation.

The 800 workers who are on strike in the Hemel Hempstead components factory, which makes axles and suspension units for a number of car ranges, are demanding an interim pay settlement of £10

Dubai first Gulf state to win full control of its oil

By Roger Vielvoe

The small sheikhdom of Dubai—part of the United Arab Emirates (UAE)—has become the first Arab state in the Gulf to gain 100 per cent control of its oil industry.

Announcing the agreed takeover yesterday, Shaikh Rashid bin Said al Maktum, the ruler of Dubai, said the oil companies would receive \$10m in compensation for their lost assets.

The companies will continue to operate the offshore fields on behalf of the Government and market the daily production, which is currently running at about 200,000 barrels a day.

Until now Dubai had not taken any measure of participation in oil company operations. Abu Dhabi, also a member of the UAE, has already obtained a 60 per cent holding in its oil industry but recently terminated that interest in gaining 100 per cent control was wanting.

Two other Arab countries in the Gulf—Saudi Arabia and Kuwait—are in the final stages of extending their 50 per cent control of the industry to 100 per cent ownership.

State help refused to textile company

Mr Ron Lewis, Labour MP for Carlisle, yesterday told 108 workers facing redundancy that the Government had refused to put money into their ailing company to turn it into a workers' co-operative.

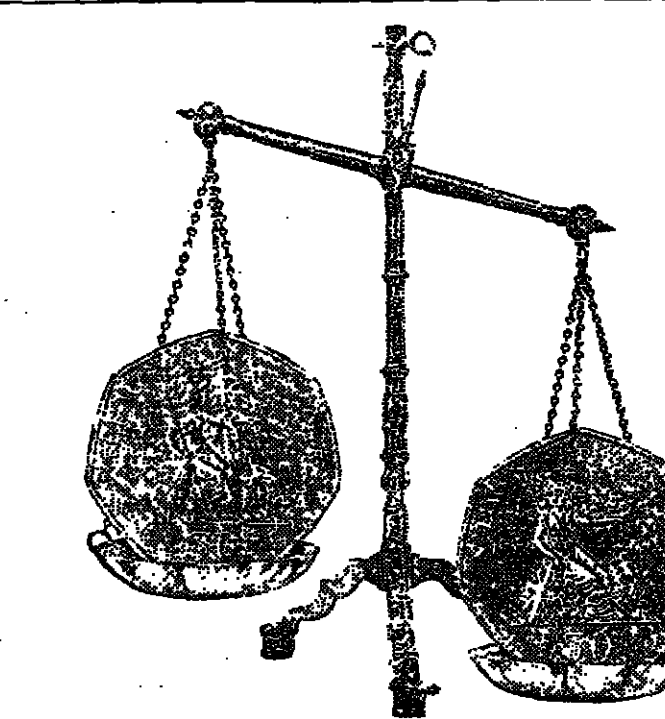
The Carlisle spinning company of Robert Todd & Sons, is due to close in two weeks. But Mr Michael Potts, chairman, said: "There are two companies definitely interested in taking over Robert Todd."

How the markets moved

Rises	Falls	Equities were easier
Argyle Secs 5p to 49p	Ass Port Cement 4p to 144p	Gold-edged securities remained firm.
Admiral Discount 10p to 210p	Com Union 3p to 158p	Starting fell by 55 points to \$2,200. The "effective devaluation" rate was 27.1 per cent. Gold declined by \$2.30 to \$161.00 an oz.
Berleys Bk 3p to 252p	Contraids 3p to 124p	
Casket S Hldgs 5p to 40p	Leeds 3p to 124p	
Edwards 8p to 49p	Lloyds Bk 5p to 205p	
Harland & Wolf 3p to 8p	Mid Secs 6p to 183p	
BAT Group 3p to 40p	Lonrho 8p to 125p	
Imp Chem Ind 1p to 274p	NIPEC 5p to 114p	SDR-5 was 1.22319 on Thursday, while SDR-6 was 0.556680.
Ldn Aust & Gen 5p to 35p	Nat Carbon 5p to 48p	Commodities: Cocoa futures rose by up to £33 a metric ton. Reuters' commodity index closed at 1,106.6 (1,096.1 on Wednesday).
Minster Assets 5p to 40p	Peachey Prop 5p to 25p	Reports, pages 22 and 23
Phoenix 5p to 204p	Reed Int 5p to 230p	
Rio Tinto Zinc 5p to 21p	Town & City 2p to 22p	
UTD Dom Tnt 2p to 21p	Vassaux 1p to 5p	
Wood S.W. 3p to 31p	Western Areas 15p to 590p	

THE POUND

Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia 1.71	1.66
Austria Sch 38.50	36.50
Belgium Fr 8.574	8.775
Canada \$ 1.30	1.25
Denmark Kr 12.60	12.20
Finland Mk 8.10	7.85
France F 6.530	6.400
Germany DM 5.40	5.20
Greece Dr 67.75	65.50
Hongkong \$ 11.10	10.75
Italy L 149.00	140.00
Japan Y 375.00	365.00
Netherlands Gld 5.60	5.40
Norway Kr 11.35	11.00
Portugal Esc 55.00	52.00
S Africa Rd 1.38	1.30
Spain Pes 126.75	120.75
Sweden Kr 9.10	8.80
Switzerland Fr 5.75	5.55
US \$ 2.24	2.19
Yugoslavia Dnr 37.50	35.75



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John Case
Chief Estates Surveyor
Peterborough Development Corporation
P.O. Box 3,
Peterborough

Marathon Oil sets gas date

Gas from the Kinsale Head field in the Celtic Sea is expected to be landed in southern Ireland in 1979, the Marathon Oil Company said yesterday.

Reserves of about a trillion cubic feet have already been sold by the company.

World Bank issue

The World Bank is raising \$500m through bond issues arranged by First Boston Corp, Morgan Stanley and Salomon Bros. The offerings will take the form of a \$300m five-year issue, carrying an interest rate of 8.3 per cent, and a \$200m 10-year issue, carrying interest of 8.6 per cent.

Report says 'free flag' fleet losses 'too high'

By Peter Hill

Flags of convenience ships now account on average for between 30 and 35 per cent of all gross shipping tonnage lost from the world fleet each year and the acquisition of large bulk tonnage by irresponsible flag authorities now poses a serious threat.

These are among points made in a report published yesterday which noted that the annual loss figures of flags of convenience tonnage represented a much higher percentage than could be justified by the size of their fleets.

The report, compiled by H. P. Drewry (Shipping Consultants), said the danger of free flag fleets lay in the almost total lack of effective control over operations. It stressed that in the future the low standards of seamanship would be limited to flags of convenience but would apply to other countries which might be unable to exercise effective government control over their shipping.

Greece now has a loss record as bad as any flag of convenience, while as the developing countries emerge as maritime interests they are appearing more and more as poor liabilities, the report states.

Flag of convenience fleets are still increasing at a rate well in excess of that of most of the rest of the world—and the present depressed freight market will undoubtedly contribute to this trend to that in the future they will increase their share of the world fleet at the expense of traditional flags, it was pointed out.

World Shipping under Flags of Convenience, H. P. Drewry (Shipping Consultants) single copies £20, or £70 for a series of ten reports.

Aero exports set record in May

For the second month running, exports of Britain's aerospace industry reached a record level in May, the Society of British Aerospace Companies announced yesterday. Total for the month was over £72m, an increase of over £5.5m compared with April and nearly one third more than in May, 1974.

For the first five months of the year the export total was £316.8m, an increase of more than £73m over the 1974 period. The May export figures include £35,666,000 for engines and parts; £32,280,000 for aircraft and parts; £1,331,000 for instruments and £1,017,000 for guided weapons.

Chambers of Commerce aggrieved by exclusion from incomes talks

By Business News Staff

The Confederation of British Industry's proposals for an incomes policy were yesterday endorsed by other representatives of industry. But at the same time the CBI's right to speak on behalf of industry in general is challenged.

As the Association of British Chambers of Commerce published its proposals for revitalising the economy, it voiced its dissatisfaction at being excluded from the front line consultations between the Government, industry and the trade unions.

The Earl of Limerick, president of the ABCC, said yesterday that it was absurd that the association, which represents about 50,000 companies in Britain, should not be represented on the National Economic Development Council.

In its proposals, the ABCC says the Government has pre-

ferred "the administrative convenience of tripartite arrangements with the CBI and the TUC" rather than engaging in genuine consultation which is time-consuming and administratively unattractive to Whitehall. The CBI and the TUC represent, at best, less than half the employees or businesses in the country.

The ABCC supports the package of proposals on wages put forward by the CBI. But it is opposed to the TUC which claims it is too high and would provide some lower paid workers with increases of up to 20 per cent.

Instead, the association favours a percentage limit on wages and is opposed to any cut-off level which would hit hardest at middle management. An agreement on wages would not solve the country's

problems, but it could provide a short breathing space to tackle the real problems. The association says that its programme entitled "Towards National Prosperity" seeks to outline a way forward for the British economy which is not obsessed with the "sterile confrontation over acceptable levels of wage rises".

Chambers of Commerce realize that only by economic expansion can national prosperity increase. According to the association the problems fall into two main headings: domestic and overseas.

On the home front Britain must decide its priorities in the allocation of scarce domestic resources to economic activity. Overseas it must agree on the specific direction of the national effort in the world at large especially its trading performance.

Leyland will invest £6m in Nigerian factory

British Leyland is to contribute £6m towards the building of a £15m car and commercial vehicle factory in Nigeria.

The new plant is to be built at Ibadan, 30 miles from Lagos. It will produce lorries and buses, and employ up to 1,500 workers.

Tarmac Construction get £40m order

A contract worth almost £10.2m has been awarded by the Yorkshire Water Authority to Tarmac Construction for the 30-month contract covers construction of headworks for the River Ure water scheme, part of the authority's project to augment water supplies to its eastern division.

BSC mill order

In a deal worth more than £2.5m, the British Steel Corporation has placed an order for a rolling mill with the Loewy Robertson division of Davy-Bew. This is the second of two £2.5m expansion programmes at the special steels division.

Carpet trade gloom

Prospects for Britain's carpet industry look gloomy and manufacturers are particularly worried about rising rates of inflation and other constraints on investment planning. In its annual report the Federation of British Carpet Manufacturers said: "The industry needs reinvestment which it is reluctant to undertake under a government which seems bent on destroying the private sector."

Pye labour cutback

Nearly 40 workers employed by a subsidiary of the Pye group are to lose their jobs. It was announced last night that the Company, Magnetic Devices, which supplies components to the electronics industry, intends to make 26 workers redundant at the Swaffham factory, and another 10 at the Newmarket plant.

Canada cuts oil tax

Canada's National Energy Board states that from next month until further notice the tax on exports of crude oil and equivalent hydrocarbons will be reduced by £1.50 a barrel.

Less gold assayed

Total weight of gold hallmarked by the London Assay Office last month declined by 4.2 per cent compared with June last year.

Business appointments

Standard & Chartered new director
Mr P. A. Graham has been made a director of Standard and Chartered Banking Group.

Mr J. D. Walcott, a vice-president of Anglo-American Bank, has been elected chairman of Botswana RST Bannangwato Concessions and associated companies in succession to Mr R. H. Page.

Mr W. H. Rolton has become a non-executive director of William Whitingham (Holdings).

Mr J. A. E. Barnes has been made managing director of Bradley & Co in place of Mr K. N. Oakley who has resigned. Mr F. R. Bowcott, who has been acting as managing director, remains as deputy managing director. Mr L. Wordington is to be production director in succession to Mr S. Mills. Mr D. A. Lawrence becomes financial director and will continue as company secretary.

Mr T. E. Bardsley, managing director of Tube Investments, has been elected chairman of the National Industrial Savings Committee.

Mr Hugo Kiersley has been made a member of the Export Guarantees Advisory Council. Mr John Stanforth has become deputy chairman of the council.

Mr J. Eylon, Mr M. Efrati, Mr E. Hurvitz and Mr A. Frenk have joined the board of Bank Leumi (UK).

Mr Clive Kelly has been made managing director of EMI Holdings SA (Pty).

Mr C. Preston Cunningham, a group vice-president of Monsanto, is to become chairman of Monsanto Europe SA.

Mr Frank Coplestone is to be deputy managing director of Southern Television.

Mr R. D. Combe has become joint managing director of James Shipstone & Sons.

Mr J. J. Mathieson and Mr W. E. Hyde have joined the board of Erna Low Travel Service. Mr F. J. Ferris and Mr J. P. J. Hart have resigned their non-executive directorships. Mr Mathieson will be taking over as chairman from Mr A. R. Weston.

Sir M. P. R. Smith, chairman of the English Tourist Board, has become a director of ATV Network.

Mr A. Francis has taken over as managing director of Handling Surveys in succession to Mr P. D. Mott.

Since the acquisition of Henry Bath & Son by Britannia Lead, Mr E. Bath has joined the board. Mr E. Bath has resigned and Mr J. D. Bendit and Mr R. H. Y. Mills have joined the board.

ALGINATE INDUSTRIES LIMITED

Alginat Industries Limited has announced a 10 per cent general increase in the price of its Alginat products and in the case of those supplied to the Brewing Industry the increase is 15 per cent.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

House valuations for insurance purposes

From Mr R. C. W. Bardell

Sir, In case there should be any confusion about house valuation for insurance purposes (Mr J. M. C. Graham, July 7) I should like to point out that the sum insured should represent the cost of rebuilding at present-day prices plus the necessary associated expenses. Inflation can quickly make estimates out of date and inadequate insurance cover will have to pay part of the cost following a serious fire.

Building costs vary, depending on the construction of the house, the quality of fixtures and fittings, where it is situated and other factors, but the national average at the beginning of 1975 was in the region of £15-£16 per square foot (which is approximately the figure applicable in Mr Graham's area of Surrey).

To obtain an approximate total rebuilding cost, this figure should be multiplied by the total floor area of your home (ground floor plus upper storeys) and an allowance made for the cost of a garage, etc. This should give a rough idea of the average to rebuild, may present special problems which can be discussed with your insurance company or broker.

Yours faithfully,
R. BARDELL,
Secretary-General,
British Insurance Association,
PO Box 538, Aldermay House,
Queen Street,
London, E.C.4.
July 8.

From Mr D. I. Pullen
Sir, The ratio of insurance premium required versus purchase price of the house that Mr Graham quotes in your issue of July 7 is quite modest compared with my own case.

Right way to use funding

From Mr Raymond Nottage

Sir, In his response to my recent letter about the financing of pensions Mr Gilley seems to suggest that I advocated the abolition of all funding. That is not so.

What I proposed was the use of funding as little as possible and the use of the pay-as-you-go method as much as possible. In practice, the public sector will be able to employ the pay-as-you-go method much more readily than the private sector; and to secure the benefits of the pay-as-you-go method the private sector will generally have to take advantage of a state scheme instead of relying on company-based schemes.

In advancing the virtues of funding, Mr Gilley makes no reference to the general economic and financial circumstances in which pension funds might have to operate. The value of money can appreciate, remain stable or decline; likewise, the investments available to pension funds can produce different degrees of profitability at various times.

Thus, when the value of money is appreciating and the profitability of industry is increasing over long periods of time the funding of pensions liabilities is an advantageous system for all concerned. When as in recent decades, these two factors have both been operating in the reverse direction, the funding system proves to be prohibitively expensive.

Hence the disquiet over the current cost of their funded pension schemes voiced by distinguished company chairmen in their recent reports to shareholders. Hence, also, my belief that many hard-headed finance directors will see the advantage of their organizations participating fully in the new state pension scheme.

do not assume, as Mr Gilley implies, that pension scales can never be reduced. But I do believe that such reductions are less likely when economical methods of financing are adopted and are more likely when expensive ones are perpetuated.

It seems to me, therefore, that trades unions should be sure that they fully understand the costs of the various ways of financing pensions, and should then encourage their members' employers to use the most economical methods, consistent with security, that are available to them.

Yours faithfully,
RAYMOND NOTTAGE,
Koyal Institute of Public Administration,
Hamilton House,
Mabledon Place,
London, W.C1.
July 7.

Tourist spending

From Mr Nicholas McKenna

Sir, Does the average British tourist really spend as much as £291 (Times Report, July 4) when visiting the United States?

On my holidays there last year I spent no more than £70. Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS MCKENNA,
11 Feltor Close,
Woolton, Liverpool.
July 5.

Appalling effect of CTT on small farms

From Mr W. M. Jones Powell

Sir, The various lines of argument put forward by Dr Hill (July 1) apparently in approval of CTT's probable effect on farming, deliberately, as he says, ignore the "small" farm which he defines as occupying the attention of three or less men full time.

Yet by that definition the vast bulk of total farm production comes from "small" farms. Certainly it does here in Wales. And most of such farms of 300 acres or less will sooner or later come within the scope of CTT.

How is it to be paid except by fragmentation and sale? And surely fragmentation of a "small" farm leads to a greater loss of efficiency (by making it still smaller) than of a large one.

Also, where such a farm is tenant occupied, as thousands are in Wales, there will be only one buyer, the tenant, for the fragment sold off, unless a course the state will take it over at the valuation figure for CTT. Is that what society (and Dr Hill) wants—gradual take-over by the state? Yours faithfully,
W. M. JONES POWELL,
Glanafon,
Vennyfach,
Brecon,
Powys.
July 3.

Bureaucratic buffoonery

From Mrs A. Ginge

Sir, On April 16 I wrote to the Department of Health and Social Security at Euston Square to ask what I thought was a reasonably simple question. That if, as a married woman working for 20 years and self-employed for the past six of these, I contracted out of the Class 2 National Insurance contribution now that the Class 4 contribution is compulsory, how any future benefits would be affected.

As I had no acknowledgment of my letter I rang the Euston Square office and was told my letter had been sent to Portsmouth. After a month I rang that branch and was told they had completed the relevant details and returned them to Euston Square. In due course I rang the benefits section there to find out that they were waiting for further information from Newcastle. I wrote a further letter on July 20 to Euston Square asking them to let me have whatever details were available, in which I received a card from the Portsmouth office saying they had forwarded my letter to Aldershot, and at this date have not had a reply.

While I appreciate that it is an amusing side, I am extremely concerned that information of this kind is not more readily available. Yours faithfully,
ANN GINGE,
20 Arkwright Road, N.W.3.
July 4.

May & Hassell LIMITED

(Timber Importers)

Statement by the Chairman, Mr J H B Atley

Year ended 31st March, 1975

PROFITS were £1.7m after making full allowance for a stock writedown of over £2m. A very successful result in a year full of difficulties both in the economy as a whole and especially in the timber trade.

DIVIDENDS the maximum permissible is recommended.

RETENTIONS of £4.7m have been made over last three years.

SHIPPING. Record profits again from Klondyke Shipping Co., Ltd. New ship, 'Martindale', delivered March 1974. Two oldest ships sold since March. Company well equipped to weather present shipping recession.

HALLAM GROUP of Nottingham Ltd., (50% owned). Investment is one of the most portentous ever made. Export orders gained. Future success unlimited.

EMPLOYEES. A second tier to the group pension scheme has been established extending benefits to the majority of employees.

OUTLOOK. Trading will become even more difficult. Three months to June show a profit. Recessionary trends bound to worsen. Stocks decreasing. Liquidity good. Group is well placed to take advantage of falling prices and chaotic internal market. One year hence a larger profit expected to be disclosed.

FINANCIAL STATISTICS	1974/75	1973/74
Turnover	£200	£200
Profit before taxation	32,742	33,298
Earnings per ordinary share	1,766	5,434
Total ordinary dividend per share	16.8p	36.8p*

* Adjusted for scrip issue August 1974.
Copies of the Report & Accounts are obtainable from the Secretary,
318 Redcliffe Parade West, Bristol, BS59 7PH.

ENGLISH & CALEDONIAN

INVESTMENT COMPANY LIMITED

Managers and Secretaries:

GARTMORE INVESTMENT LIMITED

	31st March 1975	1974
Gross Revenue	£824,384	£776,699
Net Revenue before Taxation	£600,399	£502,330
Taxation	£236,634	£170,154
Available for Ordinary Shareholders	£363,265	£321,676
Earnings per 25p Ordinary Share	2.45p	2.25p
Dividend per Share	2.10p	1.90p
Net Asset Value per Share	73.2p	82.9p
% Movement	31.74 to 31.75	-11.7
Net Asset Value		No Change
Financial Times All-Share Index		+ 4.8
Financial Times Ordinary Index		

Going into Europe?

Did you know

that once you have appointed an agent on the Continent you may not be able to get rid of him?

that exclusive dealing agreements normally must not prohibit re-exporting by the dealer?

that customs formalities are governed by overriding EEC rules?

that the regulation of advertising and sales promotion can be very different in other European countries?

that bouncing cheques abroad can lead to immediate criminal sanctions?

that commercial contracts frequently provide for disputes to be heard exclusively in a foreign court?

Whether your export activities are governed by Common Market law or by the laws of the particular country you are selling in or by the special agreements between the EEC and EFTA countries it is vital for you to know the current legal position—and to keep fully up-to-date with the daily changes.

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Investors hold back ahead of White Paper

The City was squaring itself up yesterday to face publication of the White Paper on the Government's anti-inflation policies.

In the gilt edged market, the mood of caution was accentuated at first by the prospect of a new long term stock today. But the longer end again caught the spotlight in the gilt-edged market. There was a bit of nerves in the morning, but this was shaken off and buying gathered momentum in the afternoon. After-hours trading was particularly hectic and prices advanced strongly.

The absence of a "tap" stock was the main inducement, as there were no obvious news influences to account for such a vigorous surge. A replacement of the exhausted Treasury 12½ per cent 1995 issue is expected today.

Gains in "longs" ranged up to 1 point after heavy trading. "Shorts" were quieter, with some switching into "longs" the main feature in the morning. But business picked up in the afternoon and gains of 2 points were common.

Equities opened lower, as traders caught up with the mark down on the previous evening, when the market heard that the miners wanted a four-day working week. Bear closers quickly appeared, however, for few professional investors wanted to be left with a position open when the Prime Minister rises to address the House of Commons today.

ICL, having traded at 27½p and 27½p ended at 27½p, a net rise of 1p on the day. Unilever, finally unchanged at 36½p had touched 38½p. Beecham, unchanged at 29½p, were down to 28½p and then up to 29½p earlier in the day.

A major company reporter was Imperial Group, whose interim profits were well received. But after the shares had risen to 68p, the absence of dividend increase brought a check in buying, and the shares closed

at 66½p, a mere 1p higher on the session. Bats slipped 3p to 32½p.

Shares in BOC eased to 46½p on the news that over 50 per cent of the rights issue share had been left with the underwriters. Engineering shares to ease included GKN, 6p off at 23½p and Tube Investments 4p down at 36½p.

In spite of the fear that the Government could lean more heavily on prices than so far suggested, food and consumer stocks did fairly well. Marks &

Spencer (202p), Sainsbury (146p), J. Lyons "A" (142p) and Trust H Forte (102p) shed a few pence. But Debenhams (64p), Cavenham (132p) and Boots (208p) were finally unchanged.

A sharp fall in profits at ERF (Hlgs) took the shares down by 6p to 28p. International Timber, reporting lower profits on Wednesday, gave up a further 5p to 82p. But bookmaking firm J. Coral gained 3p to 100p (after 103p) on news of a near 50 per cent rise in first

half profits. Airfix (100p), Wearwell (54p) and Denbyware were others to benefit from trading statements and Assoc Newspapers edged forward to 6p in further response to an increased dividend.

Shares in Argyle Securities slipped 5p to 49p on the chessman store deal with house of Fraser. Elsewhere Wheatstheaf Distribution were

Latest dividends

Company	Ord div	Year	Prev year
Airfix (100p)	1.76	1.67	2.78
Braithwaite Eng (El) Fin	4.14	3.68	6.01
Daily Mail & Gen (50p) Fin	5.59	5.44	9.02
Denbyware (25p) Fin	2.98	19/3	5.0
G. H. Downing (50p) Fin	5.15	1/10	9.55
Dunlop (Sp) Int	0.4	22/8	1.14
ERF (Hlgs) (25p) Fin	0.3	19/3	2.36
Greene, King (25p) Fin	2.36	2/8	4.37
Hampton Gold (Sp) Int	1.18	1/1	1.18
Imperial Gp (25p) Int	1.75	3/11	4.32
John J. Lees (10p) Fin	1.17	30/8	1.49
Donald Macpherson (5p) Int	0.78	0.8	2.67
Manson Finance (25p) Int	1.75	1/5	3.25
Marling Ind (10p) Fin	0.42	0.55	0.86
Samuel Pross (25p) Int	0.59	15/9	0.94
Spirilla (20p) Int	1.23	1/10	2.73
Tribune Lav (50p) Int	2.8	28/8	8.2
Waters & Wray (10p) Int	0.65	0.89	25/8
Wearwell (5p) Fin	0.3	2/8	4.25

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax in pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross, multiply the net dividend by 1.54, 5/18 pence.

Strong impetus at Airfix after bumper year

Soon to disclose a major foreign acquisition—its first overseas—Airfix is making good progress. For the year to March 31 profits before tax rose by 26 per cent to a record £2.6m.

Two months ago the company bought two thirds of Triang Pedigree, the toy and model company, with the Government taking the balance and providing aid of £3.5m. As well as toys Airfix's interests take in household accessories, packaging and footwear.

The main impetus to growth last year came in the second half with profits up by almost 40 per cent to £1.56m. (The interim rise was only 10 per cent.) Total turnover grew by 38 per cent, from £17.7m to £24.4m. The dividend goes up from 3.85p to 4.24p. Earnings rose from 8.7p to 10.6p a share. The shares were firmer after the result.

Mr Ralph Burmann, chairman, says the company is poised to take advantage of every opportunity. So far in the current year the production, deliveries and earnings are all sharply higher than a year ago.

Fine finish to year from Mitchell Somers

Having almost doubled pre-tax profits at halfway Mitchell Somers, the Midlands engineering group, went even faster in the second half. This produced a figure up from £240,000 to £689,000.

Total profits for the year to March 29 soared from £467,000 to £1.13m and the total dividend goes up from 1.31p to 1.44p. Turnover climbed from £6.9m to £9.8m.

over the next two or three years. Should the company play £40m from its contract with Mobil Oil and another £10m from work on BP's Fortis field.

Drilling on block 21/7, in which the company has 23 per cent, should hit potentially interesting zones in about six weeks. The company has received a financing offer from a large US bank for 80 per cent of its £7.5m contract with Sonatrach, the Algerian State Oil Company.

Investments down at Daily Mail Trust

In the year to March 31 the value of the investments of Daily Mail & General Trust, which owns just over half of Associated Newspapers, fell from £33.9m to £32.5m. Pre-tax profits went from £1.8m to £1.77m and the total dividend from 13.22p to 14.72p.

Siemens may acquire Daimler stake

The German electrical giant, Siemens, is talking with Deutsche Bank about taking over part of the 29 per cent stake in Daimler-Benz AG which the bank bought from the Flick group for DM2,000m to prevent Daimler control passing into non-German hands. Herr Wagner, finance chief, said in Vienna that Siemens might be in the form of a share exchange, valued at between DM10m and DM99m. A decision on the talks should be reached before the end of the year.

Downing retreats

The pre-tax profits of G. H. Downing, the Staffordshire-based maker of clay products, fell 20 per cent to £1m in the year to March 31. Earnings a share were 15.3p against 20.3p. But the board steps up the total dividend from 12.25p to 13p with a final 7.9p against 7.74p. The year before Downing made a record £1.25m before tax.

Greene, King peak

Suffolk brewer Greene, King scored peak profits and turnover in the 53 weeks to May 3 last. Pre-tax profits rose over the £2m mark for the first time, and at £2,002,819 compared with £1,84m. Earnings a share rose 2p from 11.7p to 13.7p and the ordinary dividend goes up from 5.53p to 6.51p with a final 4.54p against 4.17p.

Wiggins N Sea stake

Mr Paul Bristol, chairman, said at the annual general meeting of Berry Wiggins that company has 60 per cent of all production drilling work in the UK sector of the North Sea.

Denbyware tops £1m

After its 1974 reverse Denbyware, the Derbyshire-based pottery maker, pushed

pre-tax profits back over the £1m mark in the year to March 31. Earnings were 22 per cent to £1.2m out of turnover up from £4.5m to £6.1m. The dividend rises from 4.68p to 5p.

Wilkinson deal off

Wilkinson Match, the parent company of Bryant & May, has abandoned its plan to buy the Gernoud-Feudor lighters business from Swedish Match for nearly £4m. SM itself owns 33 per cent of Wilkinson.

Macpherson slithers

Reporting interim pre-tax profits down from £743,000 to £439,000 in the 26 weeks to April 27, Donald Macpherson, the maker of household and industrial paints, expects the bulk of profits to come in the second half to prevail again this year. But it does not expect overall profits to match last year's £1.72m. The company has agreed with BICC to form a joint company to produce powder coatings for both United Kingdom and export markets.

Denbyware tops £1m

After its 1974 reverse Denbyware, the Derbyshire-based pottery maker, pushed

Wheatstheaf is offering 1 for 4 at 110p

In its first equity capital venture since becoming public in 1968 Wheatstheaf Distribution & Trading is seeking to raise about £3m through a rights issue of ordinary shares to members on a 1-for-4 basis at 110p. This compares with a current stock market price of around 148p. The money from the issue will go towards expansion and modernization. This Hampshire-based group operates 52 trade markets and 36 retail stores.

Trading this year has begun well. Turnover for the first 12 weeks is over 30 per cent higher than for the same 1974 period, and all sides of the business have contributed. The directors consider it too early to forecast profits, but they intend to pay a full year's dividend for 1975-76 on the larger capital of 505p a share, against 448p. The Treasury have given permission.

Lamont issue goes to 20 subscribers

The full circular about the placing of 2m new ordinary

ERF slash dividend as profits slump

By Desmond Quigley

ERF, Britain's only independent truck manufacturer not asking the Government for aid, yesterday disclosed a near quarter drop in profits for the year to the end of March. It also proposes a dividend cut.

The drop in profits of £225,953 to £704,660 was almost in line with the rise in sales which went up from £17.27m to £21.8m.

The outlook for the first half of the current year is not bright, the chairman said in the last statement of 1974 still continuing in the first quarter. But they are beginning to ease.

In his statement with the figures for last year, Mr Peter Foden, the chairman, says: "Production problems associ-

ated with our new 'B' series vehicle were greater than had been expected, causing a fall off in production quantities. This on top of the market recession affected our sales in the latter months of the year."

However, it is only recently that our trading results have felt the full impact of these two problems coupled with their effect on vehicle and material stocks and, as a consequence, the first half of the current financial year is proving difficult.

First half prospects are poor and the proposed total dividend is being cut by more than a quarter. A final gross dividend of 1.385p per share is proposed, as against 2.574p, to give a total of 3.865p, compared with 5.237p.

A second quarter gallop from J Coral Holdings

J. Coral Holdings, the betting shop to bingo concern, is doing better as the present year to December goes by. In the first three months pre-tax profits rose by 29 per cent to £1.28m and last April the directors simply thought that this better quarterly trend would be maintained.

In fact pre-tax profits in the first six months as a whole

climbed by as much as 44 per cent to a record £3.59m while turnover rose by little more than 6 per cent to £67m.

Coral plans to declare an interim dividend in November and pay the balance for the full year. This is not surprising as the directors expect business to continue to be good. So the total dividend will presumably go up from 8.13p gross a share to just under 9p.

No payment by Samuel Props

The shares in Samuel Properties fell 3½p to 20½p after the company announced a pre-tax loss of £476,000, against a profit of £1.1m, for the six months to December 31. The loss was struck after much heavier interest charges. These climbed by £500,000 to £1.78m.

The company duly passes the interim payment after declaring 0.84p last time.

The board says it is continuing to reduce short-term borrowings by selling trading and low-yielding investment properties. There is a transfer from capital profits of £186,000 against £192,000. This is the amount equal to interest and ground rents on properties being developed.

SKF offer now unconditional

The Swedish Ball Bearing group (SKF) said it now owns or has acceptances for 54.2 per cent of the ordinary shares in respect of its bid for Sheffield Twist Drill and Steel and its offer, increased to 95p a share, is now unconditional. It said it received acceptances for 19.9 per cent of the Ord. Prior to the offer SKF held 840,885 ord and has since acquired a further 3,791,600 ord.

Manson confident

Better trading and a dwindling need for provisions led Manson Finance Trust to view the future with confidence. It is raising the total dividend for the year to April 30 from 4.37p to 4.93p gross. Pre-tax profits went up from £502,000 to £547,000. They are struck after providing for interest for which credit has been taken and which may not be received. A

Hutchison put off £16.5m rights

Hutchison International, the Hongkong-based group, said yesterday that a subsidiary which is a major supplier of logging equipment to the Indonesian timber industry, is having "trading difficulties."

Bank Rafoalim

Bank Rafoalim reports that in recent offering of ordinary shares and warrants the 90 million shares available 36 million were placed in firm hands prior to the issue. The remaining 54 million shares were oversubscribed almost three times.

House of Fr. buys Chiesm

Argyle Securities is the Chiesman Group's main store to House of Fr. The companies have terms conditional on clearance under the Trading Act.

The sale will release to the Argyle Group, accordance with the policy of concentration property investment. Fraser has given as that the Chiesman staff suffer from the sale.

Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Singapore
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Starforth Hill, to inves-
the affairs of Haw Par
International. Mr Hill
is assisted by a member
of the International firm of
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of authorities in other
ies.

Bank Base
Rates

clays Bank ... 91%
Hoare & Co. ... 91%
yds Bank ... 91%
dland Bank ... 91%
t Westminster ... 91%
enley Trust ... 111%
h Century Bank 111%
hams & Glyn's 91%
day deposits on sums of
10,000 and under, 6.5%
over 10,000 7.5%
over 15,000 7.5%
over 20,000 7.5%
over 25,000 7.5%
over 30,000 7.5%
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over 65,000 7.5%
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over 75,000 7.5%
over 80,000 7.5%
over 85,000 7.5%
over 90,000 7.5%
over 95,000 7.5%
over 100,000 7.5%

Commodities

Cocoa rises by
up to £33 a tonne

Cocoa futures rose sharply
yesterday afternoon and closed
firm-to-strong. Prices finished at
about 10 p.m. at 114.50 to
£14.50 to £33 a tonne up on
balance.
The rise, which enabled a limited
movement in the December
position, resulted directly from the
United States second-quarter
survey. The survey showed a
considerable lower-than-expected
drop against the same quarter last
year (at 10.8 per cent), which
contrasted with earlier predictions
of a decline of as much as 25
per cent.
Speculative short and long positions
were featured in the rise which
the final call was extremely active.
Some sources felt the rise might
be a result of a short covering
operation. The rise was also
aided by a report that the
United States government was
considering a reduction in
cocoa imports.

Wall Street

New York, July 10.—Prices on
the New York Stock Exchange
ended the day with a gain of
1.45 points to 114.50.

Largely responsible for the
market's performance were opti-
mism about a possible settlement in
the Middle East and the price cut
on oil announced yesterday by
Equilon.

Silver continues to gain

New York, July 10.—SILVER futures
ended the day with a gain of
1.45 points to 114.50.

Largely responsible for the
market's performance were opti-
mism about a possible settlement in
the Middle East and the price cut
on oil announced yesterday by
Equilon.

Foreign
Exchange

The dollar closed sharply firmer
in Europe in hectic currency trad-
ing yesterday as the French franc
formally reentered the European
joint float.

Heavy dollar buying apparently
stamped mostly from reports that
the USSR will buy large quantities
of grain from North America,
dealers said.
The Soviet Union may have
bought spot dollars and operated in
the six-month Eurodollar
deposit market, it was thought.
It closed at 2.4100-4.000 marks
(2.9400-3.00), after being a six-month
in Frankfurt at 2.4173—a fixed
finding is high.
The French franc closed sharply
weaker against the dollar at 4.1325
in Paris, and strengthened
against the mark in close inside the
21 per cent float intervention band,
dealers said.
Gold fell \$2.00 an ounce, to
close at \$164.00.

Spot Position
of Sterling

Market rates
Sterling
1 month 10.50
3 months 10.50
6 months 10.50
12 months 10.50
18 months 10.50
24 months 10.50
36 months 10.50
48 months 10.50
60 months 10.50
72 months 10.50
84 months 10.50
96 months 10.50
108 months 10.50
120 months 10.50
132 months 10.50
144 months 10.50
156 months 10.50
168 months 10.50
180 months 10.50
192 months 10.50
204 months 10.50
216 months 10.50
228 months 10.50
240 months 10.50
252 months 10.50
264 months 10.50
276 months 10.50
288 months 10.50
300 months 10.50
312 months 10.50
324 months 10.50
336 months 10.50
348 months 10.50
360 months 10.50
372 months 10.50
384 months 10.50
396 months 10.50
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for sale. Colour T.V., Hi-Fi, split-level cooker. All
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Going as a complete home for someone to move into.
Insurance value of contents £16,000. Will sell complete
for offers over £20,000 cash. Monthly rental £32 with
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A second floor flat in luxury
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2 beds, double reception, kitchen
2 baths, W.C., lift, porter,
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£28,000.

CANONBURY, N.1.

A first and second floor maisonette
in this fashionable area, 2
beds, 1 reception, 1 bath, 1
W.C., 1 terrace, 2 garages,
etc. Lease 99 years. G.R.
£20 p.a. £13,500.

BELGRAVIA COURT, S.W.1.

A charming penthouse flat in
modern block with all amenities,
3 beds, 2 baths, large terrace,
etc. W.C., lift, porter, etc.
Lease 99 years. £25,000.

BELGRAVIA BARGAIN

£110,000 O.N.O.
11th floor flat, Cadogan
Place, W.1. 2 beds, 2 baths,
etc. Lease 99 years. £25,000.

LIGHT, SPACIOUS C.H. flat in

Victorian house, large lounge,
dining room, kitchen, 2 baths,
etc. Lease 99 years. £25,000.

W.C.1. - Sunny 2nd floor flat in

modern block, 2 rooms, semi-
detached, 1 bath, 1 terrace, etc.
Lease 99 years. £25,000.

MARBLE ARCH - S.W.1.

2nd floor, 2 rooms, 1 bath, etc.
Lease 99 years. £25,000.

WESTGATE TERR., S.W.1.

2nd floor, 2 rooms, 1 bath, etc.
Lease 99 years. £25,000.

DELICIOUSLY, Upland, N.W.1.

2nd floor, 2 rooms, 1 bath, etc.
Lease 99 years. £25,000.

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Between St. John's Wood and
Hamstead, 2 beds, 2 baths,
etc. Lease 99 years. £25,000.

TINY MID-NINETEENTH

CENTURY COTTAGE

In private traffic-free square,
1st floor, 2 rooms, 1 bath, etc.
Lease 99 years. £25,000.

WEST HAMSTEAD

Unusually well-planned Victorian
terrace house, 2 beds, 2 baths,
etc. Lease 99 years. £25,000.

ISLINGTON, N.19.

Victorian house, 2 beds, 2 baths,
etc. Lease 99 years. £25,000.

SOUTHGATE, N.14.

2nd floor, 2 rooms, 1 bath, etc.
Lease 99 years. £25,000.

PARSONS GREEN, attractive

detached house, 2 beds, 2 baths,
etc. Lease 99 years. £25,000.

HAMPSHIRE - South of the Heath

Between Chislehurst and Waltham
Cross, 2 beds, 2 baths, etc.
Lease 99 years. £25,000.

SALING - BARGE - Magnificent

house, 2 beds, 2 baths, etc.
Lease 99 years. £25,000.

COUNTRY PROPERTIES

MUST BE SOLD, owner emigrating,
detached house, 2 beds, 2 baths,
etc. Lease 99 years. £25,000.

SUSSEX, adjoining village near

South Downs, 2 beds, 2 baths,
etc. Lease 99 years. £25,000.

N. HAMPS, Family House of

2 beds, 2 baths, etc. Lease 99
years. £25,000.

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years. £25,000.

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2 beds, 2 baths, etc. Lease 99
years. £25,000.

Old houses assume new style

Few old houses have lasted
through the years without some
changes either in size or layout.
Past requirements do not necessarily
match the needs of any
given time, which is why
so many old houses exhibit
such a fascinating variety of
styles. Sometimes, of course,
the extensions or alterations
have not always been carried
out with the greatest sensitivity,
but usually the changes made
in the fabric have by this time
weathered into a single character,
which gives the building
its attraction.

Additions made in Victorian
times are sometimes distrusted.
It is true that much Victorian
work is less attractive to
modern eyes, but at least in
most cases it had the advantage
of spaciousness. Ballards
Place, in Cowley, near New-
market, is a case in point. It
dates from the sixteenth century,
of black-and-white con-
struction with external parge-
ling and a tiled roof.

An extension was made at
the rear in Victorian times to
produce a house with three
reception rooms and four main
and four secondary bedrooms.
It remained a house that is
being of special interest.
It has about two and a half
acres of ground, which in-
cludes a large barn, loose boxes
and a paddock. It is for sale
at a price of £43,500 through
the Newmarket office of Jack-
son, Stope and Staff.

Two interesting old houses
are being dealt with by Knight,
Frank and Rutley. One is Callis
Court, the home of Mr W. R.
Rees-Davies, MP, near Broad-
stairs, Kent. It is a black-and-
white house dating from the
fifteenth century. Originally a
convent, it includes an eleventh-
century chapel, with an under-
ground passage, now walled up.
The property appeared in an
episode of *Sofia, Softly*, the
BBC television programme.

There are a large hall, a
reception room, a conservatory
and four bedrooms, as well as
a combined kitchen and dining
room. With about three
quarters of an acre, the price
is £24,500.

The other one is The Manor
House, at Tolpuddle, Dorset,
which dates back to about 1650.
A notable feature is a Jacobean
staircase; and the accommo-
dation includes four recep-
tion rooms and five bed-
rooms. The house is for sale
at a price of £27,500 through
the Newmarket office of Jack-
son, Stope and Staff.

More recently restored and
extended is Rose Lane Cottage,
at Bergen, near Bishop's Stort-
ford, Hertfordshire. Here the
work has been carried out with
the greatest care. The house
originated in the seventeenth
century and is of timber-frame
construction with white, rough-
cast and red brickwork.

Inside there is much ex-
posed timbering, with two main
reception rooms, three main
bedrooms and a study or
bedroom. There is about a
quarter of an acre of garden.
Sword Jennings, of Bishop's



Victorian spaciousness—Ballards Place, Cowleys, near Newmarket.

Residential property

Stortford, are offering the property
at £23,500.

The same agents are also
dealing with an attractive little
semi-detached period cottage
which would make an admirable
weekend retreat. Known as Fir
Tree Cottage, in the Street, at
High Easter, near Chesham, it
has a traditional living room,
the Inglenook fireplace having
a metal hood and dog grate, and
a combined kitchen and dining
room and two bedrooms. The
price is £15,500.

A sale of interest to the
horseracing world is that of
the Mentmore and Crafter
stud, four miles from Leighton
Buzard on the borders of Bed-
fordshire and Hertfordshire.
The sale is on behalf of the
executors of Lord Rosebery,
who inherited the studs in
1929 and did so much for their
development. The two prop-
erties total about 38 acres with
all ancillary buildings, includ-
ing a riding school. The prop-
erty is being sold in five lots,
either privately or by auction
later through Hammett Ratley.
Both properties have such
modern touches as double-
glazed leaded-light windows,
and there is a circular swim-
ming pool. The price for the
stud is £40,000; for the house,
about £40,000 is expected; the
agents are Cornells, of Luton.

Gerald Ely

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350 WARM SUNNY DAYS A YEAR
IN NEW SOMPTUEOUS RESIDENCE
APARTMENTS from 125 to 600 sq.m.
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garages, 1-2 carports, 1-2
storage rooms, 1-2
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